The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Conservative leaders hold "private" meet

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP) - Key national mittee on Boards. The Committee on what Scripture is," said one of the leaders of the conservative movement in the Southern Baptist Convention including the current SBC president and three past presidents, two past chairmen of the Committee on Boards, and two men called the architects of the "conservative resurgence" - met at an Atlanta airport hotel for an all-day "private fellowship meeting" Nov. 16.

According to a statement released following the closed meeting, "a group of Southern Baptist laypeople and pastors concerned about peace in the convention met together . . . The purpose of the meeting was to discuss appropriate responses to the widespread political activity of the 'moderates' throughout the Southern Baptist Convention."

About 40 people attended, said Homer Lindsay Jr., co-pastor of First Church, Jacksonville, Fla., and one of the participants.

Current SBC President Adrian Rogers and all three former SBC presidents since 1979 attended. They included Bailey Smith, evangelist from Atlanta; Jimmy Draper, pastor of First Church, Euless, Texas; and Charles Stanley, pastor of First Church, Atlanta.

Others included Lee Roberts, a Marietta, Ga., businessman and chairman of the 1986 Committee on Boards, and Brig. Gen. T.C. Pinckney of Alexandria, Va., a retired Air Force officer, and chairman of the 1987 Com-

Boards nominates people to serve as trustees of the 20 national SBC agencies, including the six seminaries.

Also present were Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas, and Paul Pressler, a Texas appellate judge from Houston. Patterson and Pressler are believed to be the chief architects of the nine-year political/theological effort to turn the nation's largest Protestant denomination to a more conservative direction.

Most of those present declined to discuss the purpose of the meeting, who attended, what was discussed, or who invited them, saying that an official statement would be released through the Baptist Press office in Nashville by Draper.

Draper, who said he was not a spokesman for the group but "had just been given the assignment" of releasing the statement, read the 11-paragraph statement which noted, "We are grieved and dismayed at the apparent failure of some to maintain the spirit of the St. Louis convention as reflected by the overwhelming response to the report of the (SBC) Peace Committee."

The statement included "seven general principles2 which "were agreed on by the participants," most of which related to the nature of Scripture.

"The issue in the SBC is not an interpretation of Scripture, but rather

President and administration

'general principles." It continued, "Believers validly differ on various interpretations, but we must never allow doubts to be cast upon the complete accuracy of the Bible as God's absolutely reliable Word."

Another statement said, "The continued use by 'moderates' of terms such as 'Fundamentalist' to describe conservative evangelicals serves only to obscure and confuse the real issue of biblical authority.'

It also said Rogers "was invited to attend and stressed in response his willingness to meet with any group, schedule allowing, interested in establishing the peace and unity of the

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, confirmed he attended and said, "I have met with groups from both sides of the aisle and I hope to continue to do so."

The current SBC president said: "It was a fellowship meeting to assess the state of the SBC, not initiated by me but to which I was invited and was happy to attend. It was a meeting that tried to assess the perceived violations of the Peace Committee's report."

Rogers said since it was a "fellowship" meeting and not an "official meeting," he is "not at liberty to say who called the meeting, who in-

(Continued on page 5)



Convention Board elects officers

These are the new officers of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. From left are Rex Yancey, pastor, First, Quitman, secretary; Paul Stevens, pastor, Ridgecrest, Jackson, president; and Donald O'Quin, pastor, First, Charleston, vice president.

Moyers' series on SBC to air in December

Moyers, the significance of the strug- Moyers was a boy in Marshall, Texas. gle for control of the Southern Baptist Convention reaches beyond the boundaries of the nation's largest Protestant denomination, stretching even to the country's political system.

That is one conclusion reached by the veteran broadcast journalist in his upcoming three-part series, "Movers: God and Politics," to be aired on consecutive Wednesday nights in December.

Another is that Southern Baptists are well on their way to becoming a

WASHINGTON (BP) - To Bill different people than they were when

The former CBS television news commentator recalled in an interview growing up in Central Baptist Church in that east Texas town:

The first things I learned about faith and democracy I learned from people like Aaron and Lois Rives, Herbert and Mary Pace, James and Frances Neely, Marjorie and Cecil Edwards, and a lot of other saints long departed. They didn't teach me a creed; there was no creed or coercion. We practic-

(Continued on page 4)

Odom, Swanberg to speak at annual youth meeting

Youth Evangelism Conference in December will have a roster of Christian entertainers and speakers, each bringing messages of the possibilities of a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

The conference, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Evangelism Department, will take place Dec. 28 and 29 at Mississippi College in Clinton. The program begins at 2 p.m., Dec. 28 and concludes at 3:30 the next day.

Principal messages will be brought

The annual Mississippi Baptist by Davis Odom and Dennis Swanberg. Odom, pastor of Crossgates Church, Brandon, will speak at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28. Swanberg, pastor of First Church, Saginaw, Tex., will speak three times: at 7:15 Monday evening, and at 9:15 and 2:45, Tuesday.

> The theme for the meeting will be "Carry the Torch of the Lord." Theme interpretation will be brought Monday afternoon by Mark McMasters, a mime from Buies Creek, N.C. McMasters will also speak - no.

> > (Continued on page 4)



Odom



Swanberg



Danny with Dennis Lee



Reid



McMasters



team resign at Southeastern By R.G. Puckett WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) - W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Seminary for nearly 14

ed meeting of trustees Nov. 17. Morris Ashcraft, who has been academic dean for seven years, also resigned from the deanship, but will remain on the faculty.

years, resigned during a special call-

Both resignations are effective July 31, 1988, or when successors are named.

The resignations of the two top officials at the Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated seminary had been expected since the trustees' fall meeting Oct. 12-13. Both Lolley and body in a chapel service Oct. 22 they were setting in motion the termination of their service to the 37-year-old seminary.

Somewhat unexpected were the resignation of three top administrators: Jerry Niswonger, assistant to the president for student development; W. Robert Spinks, assistant to the president for financial development; and Rodney V. Byard, assistant to the president for communications.

Niswonger will take early retirement because of circumstances at the

Ashcraft told the faculty and student seminary and a heart condition. The alumnus of the school suffered a heart attack two years ago and had by pass surgery. His physician has advised him to avoid stress and excessive activity.

> Spinks, who for 10 years has been Southeastern's first full-time development director, cited progress in fundraising for special projects and endowment, and told the trustees: "I have been both happy and successful in my work here. Now, because of the recent changes at Southeastern, I find it necessary to seek employment

> > (Continued on page 4)

This week's goal: year-round prayer

Baptists face a pivotal Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, Nov. 29 through

When this year's foreign missions emphasis concludes, church leaders throughout the denomination will urge members to commit themselves to pray daily for missions at home and abroad.

Minette Drumwright, director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's office of international prayer strategy, hopes Southern Baptists will gain such "a deepened awareness of the lostness of the world" during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions "that a sense of urgency will continue throughout the year."

The week of prayer will mark the start of the National Missions Prayer Plan, a denomination-wide program coordinated by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union to heighten daily prayer for missions.

And the week of prayer, with a theme of "Pray - That All May Hear," is when Southern Baptists begin settling upon their part in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, which, along with Cooperative Program unified budget giving, funds much of the work of 3,800-plus missionaries in 111 countries.

This year's goal is \$75 million. During the week of prayer, the number of prayer concerns will be expanded on the Foreign Mission Board's

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) - Southern PrayerLine telephone service.

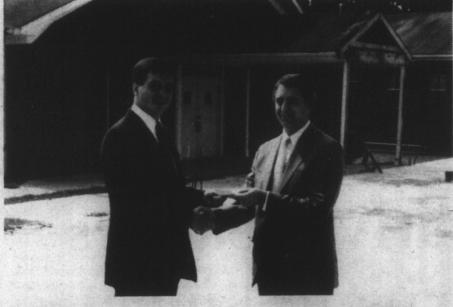
PrayerLine can be dialed toll free from 49 states, 800-ALL-SEEK (800-255-7335). FMB President R. Keith Parks will share initial prayer items Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, and add other concerns Nov. 30 and Dec.

Dec. 6 also is the date for the monthly concerts of prayer for world evangelization in Sunday worship services, Sunday schools, church training programs and other activities that

PrayerLine, which began in late January, topped the 100,000-mark in total telephone calls by mid-November. "The number of callers has far exceeded our projections,' Drumwright noted, voicing excitement over "the many ways people are making use of the prayer needs and missions news shared on PrayerLine." In many cases, callers record the PrayerLine segments and replay them during worship services, prayer meetings and WMU, Brotherhood and Sunday School sessions.

Drumwright added that PrayerLine will be one means of undergirding the National Missions Prayer Plan. "PrayerLine is an effort to have current prayer needs and requests available to all serious pray-ers who, in turn, release God's power through their praying into all the nations of the earth," she said.

Art Toalston writes for the FMB.



Disaster relief goes to Park Place

Barry Corbett, representing the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, presents a check for \$2,500 in disaster relief money to Bobby Williamson, pastor of Park Place Church, Rankin County, following a fire which burned the church. The money comes from state mission offering money from participating churches in the state.

Youth.

(Continued from page 3)

that's not quite right, he is a mime at 6:55 Monday evening.

Ventriloquist Dennis Lee from Dallas and his dummy Danny will perform at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday.

Musicians for the program include Emily Reid of Starkville, and Jamie Page of Fayette, Mo.

Other special music will be brought by groups from three Mississippi churches. First Church, Picayune's ensemble "Promise," led by Wayne Polk, will sing at 6:45 Monday evening. "Sons of the King," of First Church, Starkville, led by Tanner Riley, will sing at 9:05, Tuesday morning. And "The Third Day," of First Church, Quitman, led by Wayne Baggett, will sing at 1:35, Tuesday.

There will be a \$3 per person registration fee.

Team resigns at Southeastern

(Continued from page 3) elsewhere.'

Byard will take early retirement effective Dec. 31, 1988. Niswonger will conclude his service to coincide with Lolley's leaving and Spinks will set an effective date later.

The called meeting of trustees was scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. in the conference room of Plantation Inn. a motel near the campus, a departure from normal practice under which trustees meet on campus. The session, however, was delayed until 8:31 a.m. because of a caucus by some of the trustees who wanted to remove Lolley by Jan. 1, 1988.

James T. DeLoach of Houston, vice chairman of the board, told Todd Ackerman of the Raleigh News and Observer some of the "more extreme" members wanted an interim president to take over in January.

"A lot of things were talked about and that was one, but I think something of a consensus really came about here," DeLoach said of the decision to have Lolley stay until July 31,

DeLoach supported the recommendations of an ad hoc committee that met Nov. 3 and agreed to the date and terms of Lolley's termination. In addition to DeLoach, others who participated in the ad hoc committee were Chairman Robert D. Crowley of Rockville, Md.; and past chairmen Jesse Chapman of Asheville, N.C.; and W. Lee Beaver Jr. of Chesterfield, Mo.

William Delahoyde of Raleigh, N.C., offered a motion to refer the details of the termination of all five he has not taken, an amount equal to employees to the trustee executive committee. A substitute motion was offered by Mark Caldwell of College Park, Md., which called for all resignations and retirements to be received as they had been stated by the individuals.

Lolley supported Caldwell's substitute motion, saying: "I urge you to consider the fact that we called a meeting of all 30 of the board of trustees. If we had thought this was a matter for a smaller group to handle, we would have called the executive committee into session.

obligation to respond to what I have said."

The substitute motion was approved 23 to 3 with one abstention. Chairman Crowley did not vote; two of the 30 trustees were absent.

James Bryant of Fort Smith, Ark., made a motion that G. Paul Fletcher, director of business affairs, be named executive vice president and chief executive officer during the transition, receiving an additional \$6,000 annually for the added responsibilities.

Trustees concluded, however, that the documents of the seminary make no provision for an executive vice president and that until Lolley vacates the president's office there could not be two chief executive officers. However, Fletcher will assist Lolley during the transition, and, if a new president is not found by Aug. 1, 1988, Fletcher will become acting president.

Lolley praised Fletcher for his efficiency in financial affairs and his devotion to the seminary.

"I am not political or theological," Fletcher told the trustees, friends and students. "I love the seminary and will serve it and my president as long as he is here."

In the event the new president prefers another financial officer, Fletcher will be given at least one year's notice of termination.

Under terms agreed to by trustees, Lolley will be permitted to live in the president's home until July 31. Since he is eligible for a sabbatical, which one year's base salary (\$72,000) will be deposited in his annuity funds with the SBC Annuity Board. He also will receive the traditional 10 percent of salary severance plus four weeks of pay for vacation earned but not taken.

Health insurance, unless he is covered by other employment, will be maintained until age 65 and then the seminary will pay the Medicare supplement as for other employees. He and Mrs. Lolley will have plots in the seminary cemetery.

An indebtedness of \$10,000 which Lolley has with the seminary will be "I think I have an obligation by our forgiven. In keeping with policy for

documents to speak to the whole employees, the Lolleys had borrowed board. I think you as a board have an money on a second mortgage from the seminary at favorable interest rates.

> Dade Sherman of Monroe, N.C., challenged the package, saying he is pastor of a small Southern Baptist church and a \$100,000 severance package would be hard to defend to his

Lolley said many of the provisions of the severance package were not his requests but any effort to say it was worth \$100,000 would be refuted.

Lolley placed the value on the package at \$27,000 because he has an insurance policy for \$55,000 on which he pays the premiums and has the seminary as beneficiary.

DeLoach and Beaver defended the recommendation from the four trustees who worked out details of the severance. They called it fair but not excessive for the position and Lolley's contribution to the seminary during the past 14 years.

Ashcraft will take a sabbatical to which he is entitled and return to the faculty to teach theology. As dean, he will be given 10 percent of his salary (\$4,810.50) as severance pay.

The 11-member executive committee met in closed session Nov. 17 to discuss the procedure for securing a new president.

Crowley, who pledged the procedures set forth in the seminary's documents will be followed "meticulously," said he has received three recommendations, but they cannot be considered candidates because none has been contacted. He denied the rumor that Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas, will be the next president.

The next meeting of the trustees will be in March 1988, at which time the board's executive committee will report on the implementation of the SBC Peace Committee report. Some trustees said a new president should be secured before the implementation of the report, while others contended the matter should be settled before a new chief executive arrives. No final conclusion was reached.

R.G. Puckett edits the Biblical Recorder.

Moyers' series on SBC to air in December

(Continued from page 3) ed the priesthood of the believer every Christian is competent to deal directly with God. No human being, no institution comes between you and God. That's Baptist."

While they argued about what the Bible meant in their lives, he says, "no one could enforce on any of us any particular interpretation of Scrip-

Further, he adds, the people in his boyhood church "taught me that the core of fellowship is not doctrine or dogma, but freedom, the soul's freedom to follow the teachings of the Bible and the Spirit of God as one feels

church training union about "how Baptists had been born fighting for freedom and suffered for it and lost their lives in Europe for insisting on their right to interpret the Bible for themselves." And he learned that in colonial America, his denominational ancestors were beaten for seeking to exercise that right, were "driven into exile for preaching the gospel their way (and) refusing to pay taxes to support the Congregationalists and the Anglicans."

He also is convinced the current division among Southern Baptists represents more than a schism. "It isn't just a schism because Baptists fluence to bear on candidates for ofhave always, like amoebas, split and fice and issues such as school prayer, divided," he says.

It is on the larger political landscape that the conservative surge is having a potent effect. The conservative movement, he insists, "is going to continue to be a powerful social. cultural and political force in American life for some time to come."

Although Baptists long have debated the Bible's meaning for the political order, Moyers sees the current trend of insisting the Bible demands political partisanship in the secular realm as something new: "What's new is the determination of this sizable faction . . . to make one view of the Bible - their view - the test of religious and political truth. For Baptists, that's radical. And that's having far-reaching implications on Moyers also remembers learning in our political life, on our cultural life and on our religious life. That is new.'

Although Moyers insists conservatives are sincere and convinced they are led by the Spirit of God, "They are nonetheless calling into question the historic integrity of Baptists as I was raised to think of Bap-

Noting the alliance of some leaders in the conservative SBC movement with the politics and politicians of the "Religious Right," Moyers notes control of the SBC carries with it political overtones: "This control is politically important because the convention shapes how Baptists bring their in-

(Continued on page 5)

Thursday, December 3, 1987



Christopher Wheeler, left, and Tony Bernard.

Two receive

HATTIESBURG - Two William Carey College students received

Tony Bernard, a sophomore biblical

Christopher Wheeler, a freshman biblical studies major, was awarded the Dr. William M. Clawson Scholartist college received a scholarship of its faculty members. Wheeler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wheeler of Woodville. They are members of

Serious runner, serious Christian

By Tim Nicholas

highway 49 between Wiggins and the Perkinston campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College.

serious runner and a serious

Guy is vice president of his Baptist Student Union at Perk and got involved simply because he was invited. Last year he found a little invitation to BSU in his room. "I'm a Baptist and went to see what this was like. I enjoyed the Christian fellowship, stayed on, and got really involved."

Guy, an Ocean Springs native, plans on going into the ministry after college. Meanwhile, he ministers each week with fellow BSUers at the Bond campus of the Baptist Children's Village. The students help the children at Bond in tutoring and offer Christian fellowship. "I enjoy those kids," he says. "If they even hear the Word when they're young, they're going to remember it."

Guy was to have preached his first sermon last month at his home church, Macedonia Baptist in Ocean Springs. His parents are pleased, he says. "They say they expected it in the way I lived my life," he says.

Guy pays his way through school with a Pell Grant, through work study on campus such as helping the school photographer, and with his job as a resident assistant (RA) in the dorm.

He views the RA job as a ministry. Everyone knows I'm a Christian," he says. "But witnessing is hard sometimes to go verbally up and talk

Wave at the Guy running on to them. They put up too many walls. They think happiness is . . . getting drunk with a girlfriend.

"Once you get through that there's The guy is Anthony Guy. He's a more to being happy than the worldly things, then usually they'll come around and admit they're unhappy . . . Then I can go in and say I have someone who can fill your void."

This past summer, Guy spent 10 days in Germany racing track with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The students witnessed in the stands after races. "One guy from Germany I talked to had not even heard the gospel," said Guy. "He was amazed and wanted to know what a Christian was." The German only knew of America from the violent television shows he had seen. Guy told him all Americans are not like that. "He said he wanted to have a little piece of Christ," says Guy. "It was a great fulfillment for me."

Guy, who has run the 5,000 meters in 16 minutes, 22.9 seconds, holds the state record in that event. A couple of senior colleges have told him to let them know when he finishes at Perk. He says he may do that. But he also may look for a college where he can take theological courses.

Guy has morning and evening quiet times for Bible reading and prayer. He participates in an interdenominational Bible study each week on the coast, and he is contemplating summer missions.

In his 100 miles a week that Guy runs, he has a sure destination -Christian discipleship.

scholarships

scholarships from the Board of Ministerial Education of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The students were honored for outstanding work in their pursuit of ministerial

studies major, was presented the Thurman V. Bryant Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is presented annually to a ministerial student for academic achievement and leadership. Bernard and his mother, Ms. Mona Bernard, are both of Denham Springs, La. and members of Amite Baptist Church.

ship. This is one of four special scholarships. Each Mississippi Bapawarded in honor of outstanding service in ministerial education by one Woodville Baptist Church.

Gulfshore: 1988 dates

July 4-8 in 1988, using the theme "Caring for our Family in Crisis Times." The program will feature Mike McKinney, Conflict Management Specialist, Des Moines, Iowa; John Adams, family life consultant, Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship, Des Moines; and Lee Potts and Mickey the talking tree, Southwestern Seminary.

Anthony Guy

BAPTIST

STUDENT

UNION

Rom Mumbower will serve as associate director and campus family counselor.

The Single Adult annual retreat will be held July 2-4 featuring much the same personnel as Family Week with enlisted at this time include Reid Christian, MS 39571.

Gulfshore Family Week will be held Doster, Mike Romeo, Beverly Stubblefield, Paul Jones, and Ray Hodges.

> The Annual Senior Adult Retreats will be held May 17-21, May 23-25, and May 26-28.

> The featured preachers and Bible study leaders will be Gordon Sansing, Vicksburg; Tommy Jarrett, Macon; and Penrose St. Amant, Bay St. Louis. The theme of the three conferences will be "The Palm Tree Christian."

> These Gulfshore events will be sponsored by the Church Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Reservations may be made after the theme "Single Adults Caring for March 1 by writing Frank Simmons, one another." Other faculty members Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass

N. Winona is caught up in missions, firsthand The Ralph Davises, missionaries to Center in Tuscaloosa. In Winona the Bonillas stayed with Ghana, were missionary speakers at North Winona Church to launch the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

The women of the church had established a hall of flags in the church auditorium with a display of 87 flags of nations where Southern Baptists have missions work. The women had made the flags and are working toward having a flag for each of the 110 counties with mission work.

Observers said the flags were impressive, and the Davises presented an inspiring and colorful report on their work.

Before the Davises arrived, however, missions came to North Winona in the persons of Dina Garcia Bonilla and her son, Jonathan, five years of age. They are from Honduras.

Jonathan has a rare type of colitis which cannot be treated in Honduras. It had been diagnosed by an Alabama husband and wife physician team, Don and Janice Buckley of Tuscaloosa. The ailment is treatable in the United States, but there is no known cure. Project Hope, a mission endeavor to support foreign people with chronic ailments that cannot be treated in their native lands had brought them to Capstone Medical Frank and Margie Vaughn. Mrs. Vaughn is a native of Mexico and is bi-lingual. They were visiting the Vaughns until the case could be studied, medicine prescribed, and a supply donated for shipment to Honduras.

They got more than medicine, however. They attended North Winona Church with the Vaughns. During worship services the messages by the pastor, Frank Bishop, were translated for Dina by Mrs. Vaughn.

Mrs. Vaughn used a Spanish Bible to explain the plan of salvation, and Mrs. Bonilla made a profession of faith. She asked Bishop to baptize her before she returned home. She gave her testimony at the Wednesday evening service during the week of prayer and the missions day emphasis at North Winona was concluded with the baptism of Mrs. Bonilla.

She received a Spanish Bible as a gift and said she planned to use it to witness to her husband when she got back home.

With these events in the background, the church adopted its most challenging Lottie Moon Offering goal of its history, \$7,500. The offering will be concluded on Dec. 31.

Moyers' series on SBC

(Continued from page 4) abortion and foreign policy. So the story is not just about Baptists. It's about the continuing battle over religious liberty in this country.

Among Southern Baptists interviewed on the Moyers special is Judge Paul Pressler of Houston, one of the 'cond of the three-part series. It is to architects of the conservative SBC movement.

Another prominent conservative, W.A. Criswell of First Baptist Church of Dallas, also appears in a segment filmed in his office.

On the other side, outspoken Joint Committee.

moderates such as Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Russell H. Dilday and Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn are featured.

"The Battle for the Bible" is the sebe aired at 9 p.m. EST, Wednesday, Dec. 16, on national public television. Because times may vary in different parts of the country, viewers should consult local listings.

Stan Hastey writes for the Baptist



Dina Garcia Bonilla and her son, Jonathan, stand by a flag of Honduras that was made by the women of North Winona Church and was a part of a 87-flag display during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions at the church. The Bonillas are from Honduras.



Letters to the editor





Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Desperate need in Scott County

Editor:

A Scott County family is in desperate need of help. We have had some fund raisers, but we have a long way to go. There is around \$10,000 in the fund. Please do what you can to help the Comans family. May God always bless and keep you in his love. There are three doctors that have been seeing Larry for the last six years: Dr. Janette Pullens, Dr. Raphi Irer, Dr. Nancy Kreymas.

Larry Comans, age 20, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Comans of Lake, MS. Larry has T Cell leukemia. Larry was 13 years old when the doctors first found the cancer. He was able to attend Lake School up until the 10th grade; and later, between treatments, he received his GED diploma. Larry, and his family, are members of East Forest Baptist Church. His father and brother are deacons, and both sing with the Gospel Travelers. Larry has been out of remission twice in the past six years. The last time was in January, 1986. In September of this year doctors at the University Medical Center told the family that Larry's leukemia had gotten worse. Larry must have a bone marrow transplant while he is in remission and strong enough to go through surgery. Larry's younger brother, Jammie, who is the same age as Larry when he was taken with this illness, will be the donor. The cost of this operation is \$100,000. Larry, Jammie, and their mother will fly to Seattle, Washington, for surgery.

Larry has fought this battle with God's help, and not once in six years has he thought about giving up. Please pray for Larry. A Larry Comans fund has been set up at the Farmers and Merchants Bank, Forest, MS.



Larry Comans

Larry must have this transplant to live. Larry and his family will greatly appreciate any support you can

> Ruth Marler Forest

We are running this letter to the editor in conjunction with a Faces and Places column about a youngster in Starkville, Ike Campbell. In 30 years I do not recall such similar and desperate needs coming to the attention of the state paper in the same week. Our Faces and Places column by Anne McWilliams is a departure from policy which we are making because of the great need. The need mentioned in this letter is just as great, but we heard about the other situation first. In both cases, the families are dependent on the Lord and on other people. The solutions are out of their hands.

As a matter of interest, I once visited with Ike Campbell several years ago in University Medical Center in Jackson due to my daughter's friendship with the fami-

Need accompaniment tape

Our church youths are planning to perform "Two Nights Before Christmas," a musical by Lynne Brower. We are a small church and have been unable, so far, to locate a church in our area which might be willing to lend us the cassette instrumental accompaniment track. We are prepared to perform with piano accompaniment, but would prefer to use the cassette. We will gladly pay all shipping charges and will return the cassette promptly. Our address is Canaan Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Box 134, Ashland, Miss., 38603. Please call us at 601-223-4323 before mailing to prevent duplicate tapes being received.

> Danny Worsham Ashland

Grateful to Dan Hall

How sad I am to read in the Baptist Record of the untimely death of Dan Hall.

I remember so well how he encouraged a group of us senior music majors at MC during the spring of 1965 just after he came to the Church Music Department. He met with us and arranged for some four of us to attend the Church Music Workshop at New Orleans Seminary that year at no cost. What an inspiration that conference was for us.

Later that summer, just after my wife and I were married, Dan asked us to serve on the faculty for youth music week at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

Although I did not get to see him this summer while on furlough, my Dad gave me a copy of Church Music RFD. I know that some of the ideas therein will be helpful to me as we serve our Lord here in Costa Rica.

I shall be eternally grateful to God for Dan Hall and the encouragement he gave me as a young church musician just starting out.

> Russell Herrington Music Missionary to

Thanks for opportunity

Editor:

You will never know the joy you have stirred in me by giving me the privilege to share the devotionals for November in our state paper. Friends over the state have let me know that they saw them.

Too often, we neglect to tell you that we appreciate the fine work you do in binding us together. Thank you too for information that helps keep us doctrinally sound.

May the blessings of the "Thankful" holiday remain with you.

> Sincerely, Fanny Cothran

It was a delight to have you as our devotional writer for November -

Appreciation of former president

Editor:

This is a message that I would appreciate your conveying to Mississippi

I want to sincerely thank you for the privilege of serving as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for the past two years. More than anything else, I want to thank all of you who faithfully prayed for me and for the work of our convention. There is no doubt in my mind that the reason we have experienced good, peaceful convention sessions has basically been because of prayer. I now request and challenge all of us to even do a better job as we undergird and support Dr. Jim Futral as our new president.

Even though I have expressed this to our people, I would like to share my thanks to the membership of First Baptist Church in Biloxi for sharing me these past two years. Our other staff members carried on much of my work during my absences, and I am deeply grateful. I would also like to express appreciation to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board staff who were encouraging, helpful, and supportive.

As I turned the gavel over to Jim

Futral, it was with a profound sense of gratitude for the outstanding response I received from Mississippi Baptists.

> Gratefully, Frank Gunn Immediate past president Mississippi Baptist Convention

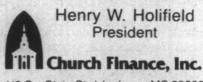


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Conservative leaders hold private meet

(Continued from page 3) vited me, or who attended."

Carolina, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, Louisana, and Kentucky.

Draper, however, said the meeting conservatives.' was not in specific response to the state conventions.

Draper, who was president of the SBC 1982-84, said there have been a number of moderate political meetings in Texas: "Our concern is year and a half ago not to do that. done.' Their (the Peace Committee's) recommendation was received and (political activity) has not stopped, it has intensified.

gressive activities of the moderates in us have been laying low for the last 18

in the last six months, we met to The meeting was held just a few discuss our response and our condays after moderates in the 14.6 cerns for the convention. No specific million-member denomination ap- things were decided, but in all candor, parently won victories in such Baptist we do have to make some response to state conventions as Georgia, North the aggressive tactics of the Baptist Press: "No decisions were moderates and to the continued caricatures and misrepresentations of

He said participants discussed, but came to no decision, on whether to refer "the things the moderates have done in the form of meetings and political rallies" to Charles Fuller. chairman of the SBC Peace Committhat the Peace Committee asked us a tee, "to see what he feels should be

Draper added he does not believe the conservative meeting violates the approved by the convention, yet it Peace Committee edict against political meetings: "We are trying to find out how we can react in a positive "We were just trying to decide how and healthy way. We are not trying to to respond to it. In light of the ag- create problems, and in fact some of

the last year, and particularly the months in order not to create problems."

> In response to a question about whether strategy concerning potential candidates for the SBC presidency in 1988 was discussed, Rogers told made as to who would be a candidate. Certainly, as any group would do, we discussed a number of people. We are happy there are a number of good possibilities. But we made no decision, nor do we have the right to make decisions of that kind. That decision is for an individual to make."

> Draper added the meeting was informal and was "not all that unusual. About once a year some of us — eight or 10 or a dozen — get together to talk about what is going on. This was just another one of those meetings.

> The thing that was a little unusual about this was that there were more

> The meeting came about, he said, when "different ones of us were talk

ing about what was happening in the different states. We asked Fred Powell (senior associate pastor at First Baptist Church in Atlanta) to set it up for us. I don't know how all of the people got invited; in fact, I didn't even know all of the people there."

Participants apparently decided to release a statement on the meeting after two news reporters showed up at the Airport Marriott to cover the event. Jim Newton, chief of the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press, requested permission to attend the meeting, but was asked to leave.

"This is a closed meeting of Baptists who are here for fellowship," Newton quoted Patterson as saying in response to his request.

The Marriott daily schedule of events listed the meeting as being scheduled by First Baptist Church of Atlanta. As he left the room, Stanley, pastor of the host church, said the group was "having a little fellowship in there."

Resolution expresses appreciation to Vickery

n its recent sessions adopted the Lord. llowing resolutions.

Resolution expressing appreciation to Harry E. Vickery

Convention did, in formal session, in Jackson, Mississippi, in November Mississippians; and 1984, establish a \$40 million fund raising drive for endowment for million tons of food remains unpick-Mississippi College, Blue Mountain ed in American farm fields; and College, William Carey College, and The Baptist Children's Village under wasted food would be harvested, it the name The Mississippi Mission;

WHEREAS, the duly appointed Campaign Committee on August 6, 1985, enlisted as general chairman, fers an anti-hunger strategy called Harry E. Vickery, a layman of First Baptist Church, Greenville, who had demonstrated his commitment and 2:2-23) high dedication through his church, community, and state; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vickery, graduate of Mississippi College, married to a graduate of Blue Mountain College, past president of the Mississippi College Board of Trustees, past chairman centers; and of the deacons of First Baptist Church, Greenville, chairman of three that we respectfully request the Chrispulpit committees of that church and adult Sunday School teacher, had Mississippi Baptist Convention to exgenerally demonstrated his untiring plore with the governor the possibilicommitment as a Christian layman; and

WHEREAS, the four institutions represented by The Mississippi Mission had the lowest combined endowments of comparable institutions in any of the other Southern Baptist state conventions; and

WHEREAS, through the successful efforts of Mr. Vickery through his statewide travels by car and plane, numerous meetings, training sessions, and public promotional members, and governmental officials speeches and his enormous investment of time away from family for the cause of Mississippi Baptists through this effort; and

WHEREAS, The Mississippi Mission has obtained pledges of over \$32 million to date; and

WHEREAS, the \$40 million goal established is within sight; and

WHEREAS, the benefits to these institutions will touch the lives of thousands of Mississippi young people for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the financial stability of these four institutions has been positively affected,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Baptist Convention, assembled in Jackson on November 11, 1987, does hereby commend and express its heartfelt gratitude to Harry Vickery



Three children in day care at First, Jackson, take time for a snack while their parents attend the Baptist convention.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention for a job well done to the glory of our have a genuine concern about the teen

Resolution on gleaning

WHEREAS, the Bible speaks clearly about the responsibility of God's WHEREAS, the Mississippi Baptist people to care for the hungry; and WHEREAS, hunger is a concern of

WHEREAS, an estimated sixty

WHEREAS, if just a fraction of the would help reduce hunger; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi is a leading agricultural state; and

WHEREAS, the Old Testament ofgleaning (Leviticus 19:9-10; Deuteronomy 24:19-21; and Ruth

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mississippi Baptists explore ways to do agricultural mission action projects related to the gleaning of produce which would be given to food banks, rescue missions, and feeding

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, tian Action Commission of the ty of establishing a task force to study gleaning as one way to feed the hungry in Mississippi; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we respectfully request the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention to explore with the Legislature the possibility of holding hearings on gleaning; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that encourage churches, church to seek ways to end hunger.

pregnancy rate in our state; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, the Mississippi state legislature adopted the School Nurse Program to mandate and preserve good health practices among students;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention in annual session believe the School Nurse Program would be more consistent with Christian beliefs if it were to contain certain provisions such as providing for informed parental consent through parental communication, that sexual abstinence before marriage be advised, that the program not be involved in the dispensing of birth control devices or the counselling or referral for abortion, and the periodic independent accountability.

Resolution on Church/State Relations

Recognizing the concern of some messengers in the matter of Church/State Relations, your Committee on Resolutions recommends that the resolution on Church/State Relations be referred to the governing bodies of our denominational agencies for their consideration.

Resolution Of Appreciation

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Baptist Convention in its 152nd annual session has again joined the warm hospitality of the First Baptist Church of Jackson and the friendly cooperation of its staff, and

WHEREAS, we, the messengers of the annual Convention, have been blessed by the program faithfully prepared by the Committee on Order of Business, the agencies of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and the various officers and committees,

WHEREAS, we have been challenged to new visions of unity and

Resolution on teen-age pregnancy WHEREAS, Mississippi Baptists purpose;

Jan Cossitt, consultant, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, models an old-time gown in celebration of WMU's centennial year. She talks with Frank Simmons, director, Gulfshore.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we express grateful appreciation

- 1. The members, pastor, and staff of First Baptist Church and to numerous volunteers who graciously served in registration and many other areas.
- 2. Our Convention President, Dr. Frank Gunn, and the other of-

ficers and committees who have so faithfully served this Convention.

3. The inspirational speakers and singers for their stirring messages.

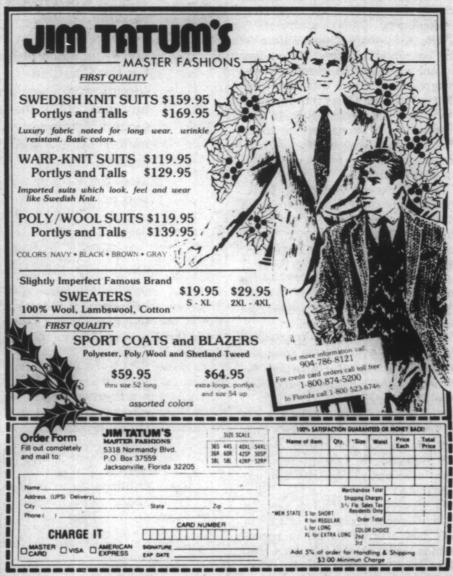
4. The Order of Business Committee for a job well done.

John McCall was chairman of the Committee on Resolutions.

Bivocational ministry meet is planned

NEW ORLEANS - A "South-New Orleans Seminary Friday and 70126, or call (504) 282-4455. Saturday, March 11-12.

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Thursday, December 3, 1987

San Antonio dismisses pastor

DALLAS (BP) - First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas, voted 623 to 614 Oct. 25 to dismiss David C. Walker as pastor of the 126-year-old

Citing problems with the pastor's "leadership style" that resulted in divisions in the church, the deacons voted Oct. 18 to ask for Walker's resignation. When he failed to resign, the deacons sent a recommendation to the church's personnel committee that Walker be dismissed, effective immediately.

After the vote was taken, Walker led the church in a hymn and invited anyone interested in forming a new congregation to meet with him in the church's chapel. Observers reported more than 300 people attended that meeting. Participants were invited to attend the first service of the new congregation at 11 a.m., Nov. 1, at the San Antonio Econolodge.

The 34-year-old Vicksburg, Miss., native went to the San Antonio church in 1984 after being pastor of San Jacinto Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas, and First Baptist Church of Hobart, Okla. He also had worked on the staff of Sagamore Hill Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas; First Baptist Church of Houston; and Garden Oaks Baptist Church in Houston.

Walker is a graduate of Houston Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, where he earned master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees.

First Baptist Church of San Antonio led Texas Baptist churches with 1,182 baptisms in 1986. The church ranked 15th statewide in Cooperative Program missions giving with \$262,000 contributed.

The church, which had an average Sunday School attendance of 2,153 in 1986, has averaged 1,465 in recent months. Weekly receipts have run about \$38,000, or 10 to 15 percent below offerings at the same last year.

Offerings have been almost \$6,000 per week behind requirements for the amended church budget.

Convention's books will close Dec. 31

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will close its books on Dec. 31 for fiscal year 1987, according to an announcement by A. Jennings Orr, business manager and comptroller.

All gifts that churches want to have credited to fiscal year 1987 must be received by the Convention Board treasurer by that time, Orr said. Those gifts that are not in the office by that date will be credited to the 1988 fiscal year, he noted.

Pray for the new church that is being planted in Uba, Brazil, a city of 75,000. This is the first Baptist church in the city. Pray that the congregation will be a lighthouse for Christ and that many will hear the gospel through this church's outreach.

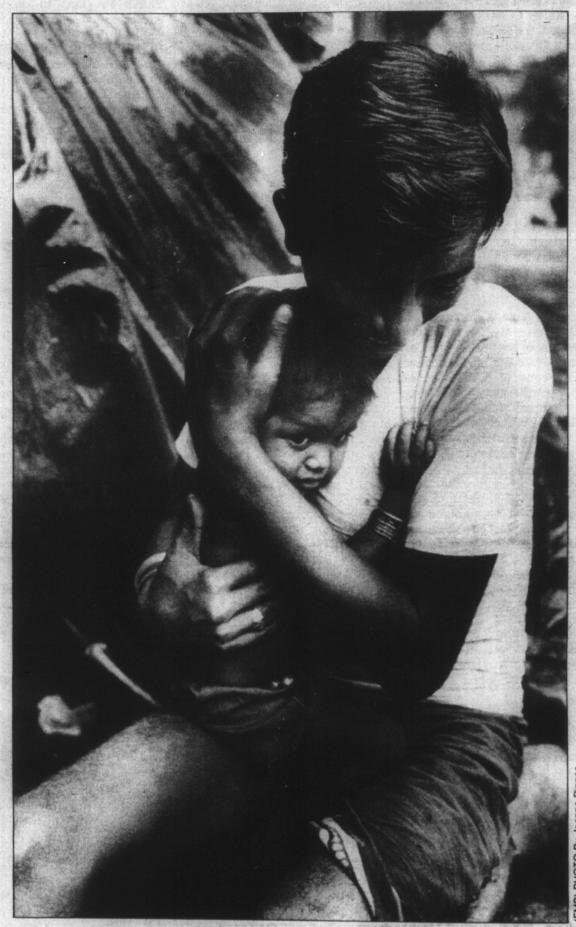
Kartik Singh doesn't know the name of Jesus.

He starts each day facing his Hindu gods, hoping to live through the day, pulling his rickshaw through hazardous Calcutta traffic. His family, including baby, Sonu, consumes his interest when he isn't working.

Kartik Singh may never know the name of Jesus. For the Christian community makes up only a tiny minority of the world's second most populated nation. Most of India's millions will never even meet a Christian—unless you pray. Pray that the people of India will hear the good news of Jesus.

Kartik Singh is not alone. On July 11, 1987, the world's population passed the 5 . billion mark. Many of those have never heard the name of Jesus. Even fewer have had a personal encounter with him. Pray that Southern Baptist missionaries and their fellow Baptists around the world will be used by God to help all men, women and children to hear the good news.





Missionary News

Mary Alice Ditsworth, missionary to Indonesia, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 3904 Liverpool Ave., Escatawpa, Miss. 39552). A native of Mississippi, she was born in Lucedale and grew up in Pascagoula. She was appointed in 1956.

Eddie and Marilyn Graves, mis-

States for furlough (address: Rt. 3, the field to begin their first term of Box 80, Starkville, Miss. 39759). They are natives of Mississippi. He is from Ripley, and she is the former Marilyn Lewis of Starkville. They were appointed in 1983.

Mike and Carolyn Miller, mis-

service (address: P. O. Box 208, Kaohsiung 80099, Taiwan ROC). He was born in Beaufort, S.C., and considers Southaven, Miss., his hometown. The former Carolyn Kennedy, daughter of former Southern Baptist missionaries to Nigeria and Kenya, she considers Fort Worth, Texas; her hometown. sionaries to Chile, have arrived in the sionaries to Taiwan, have arrived on They were appointed in 1987.

Robert and Janice Mooney, mis sionaries to Zambia, have arrived on the field to begin language study (address: P. O. Box 50599, Lusaka, Zambia). He was born in Marvell, Ark., and considers Jackson, Miss., his hometown. The former Janice Anglin, she was born in Bogalusa, La., and considers Talisheek, La., her hometown.

Thursday, December 3, 1987

BMC chorale sets vespers concert date

The Blue Mountain College Chorale will present its annual Christmas Vespers concert on Sunday, Dec. 13, at 3 p.m. The concert will be held at Lowrey Memorial Church, Blue Mountain, and admission is free.

The Chorale, under the direction of Assistant Professor David R. Gilmore, will perform works by John Rutter, William Mathias, Paul Christiansen, Olaf Christiansen, Claude Bass, and Don Phillips.

The concert will feature lessons from the Scriptures and will culminate with A Festival of Carols, which is an extended work for choir and organ, and will feature Terry McRoberts on the organ.

Metro Jackson pastors to meet at Baptist Building

A meeting for the purpose of establishing a metro pastors' conference in the Hinds, Madison, and Rankin County area will be held Dec. 7 at 10 a.m. in the Baptist Building, in Jackson, according to an announcement by Davis Odom, president of the statewide Pastors' Conference and pastor of Crossgates Church, Brandon.

Odom will host the meeting along with Gerald Harris, immediate past president of the statewide Pastors' Conference and pastor of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. Harris is first vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The meeting will be held in the fourth floor skyroom of the Baptist Building.

Pastors of the three-county area are invited to participate in this planning session, Odom said. The hope will be to establish a time for fellowship, inspiration, and sharing information for those pastors. A dutch lunch is being considered as a part of this initial

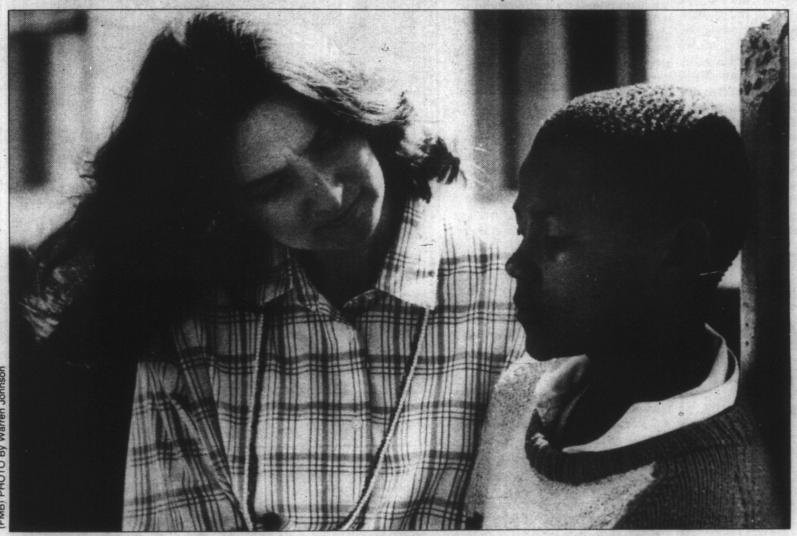
The plan is that the new pastors' conference would meet monthly. If it develops, it will be an unofficial gathering for fellowship and information, Odom indicated.

On July 11, 1987, the world's population passed the 5 billion mark. Many have never heard the gospel of Jesus.



When Christian churches were allowed to reopen following the cultural revolution, Western Christians were thrilled to hear of a church that not only survived years of persecution, but also prospered. Today, Southern Baptists are finding ways they can cooperate in strengthening the church in China while still respecting China's ban on missionaries. Pray that Chinese Christians will find ways to help their countrymen hear about Jesus.

While some Americans may have written off South Africa as a hopeless case, Southern Baptist missionaries Keith and Terry Bakley have rolled up their sleeves and gone to work, offering both the message of Jesus—and the touch of his love. Terry has been able to minister to homeless children, such as this boy, through their Khayamnandi (Sweet Home) Baptists have started in Cape Town. Pray that other young people around the world who are victims of strife, poverty and merely hopelessness, will hear about Jesus.



That All May Hear

Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions Nov. 29-Dec. 6, 1987 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering National Goal: \$75 million

Simpson Association begins new Friendship Ministry

Simpson Association will begin a new ministry entitled Friendship Ministry, Jan. 5, 1988. The objective of the program is for selected and trained adults to be available at designated times to be a friend to teens and/or parents who have problems they would like to share. Referrals of participants are expected to be received from parents, pastors, school faculty, and other agencies. This program is not designed to provide professional counseling. Participants will have access to professional resources when needed and agreed on. This program is sponsored by the Associational Pastoral Ministry Department. H. Glen Schilling is director of missions.

Court rejects schooling appeal

WASHINGTON (BP) — Rejecting an appeal by an Ohio couple, the U.S. Supreme Court has declined to consider the constitutionality of home schooling, including the question of whether parents have a religious right to educate their children at home.

Three years ago, Richard and Pamela Schmidt of Columbiana County, Ohio, refused to enroll their daughter, Sara, in either a public or private school as required by Ohio their case to a public official.

law. Rather, they enrolled the 6-yearold in a home study program sponsored by Winchester Christian Academy of Columbus.

Although Ohio law permits home schooling with the permission of the local superintendent of public schools, the Schmidts did not seek permission for Sara's home schooling because they thought they were in compliance with the law and because they refused on religious grounds to submit their case to a public official.

Both a state appeals panel and the Ohio Supreme Court affirmed the trial court, specifically refusing to consider the Schmidts' primary argument that the free exercise clause of the First Amendment gave them a constitutional right to educate their child at home. The issue was not addressed, both panels asserted, because the parents had failed to seek Stiller's permission for home schooling, thereby thwarting the possibility permission might be granted.

Dispute over creationism erupts in Missouri college

By Bob Terry

ST. LOUIS (BP) - A longsimmering dispute at Missouri Baptist College broke into the open in mid-October when the St. Louis Post Dispatch printed an article charging that three professors were being forced out by the school for teaching evolution.

According to the story, Leroy Madden, chairman of the department of natural science and professor at the Missouri Baptist Convention-affiliated school for 17 years, is being forced out for refusing to teach creation science.

Former history professor Douglas Herman charged he was denied reappointment for the current year when he refused to "describe certain biblical stories such as the Garden of Eden and Noah's Ark as accurate historical accounts.

Professor of religion Larry Davis, who reportedly disagrees with the administration's interpretation of scripture, also has been told his contract will not be renewed after the current academic year.

Missouri Baptist College President Patrick O. Copley expressed surprise at the story.

Copley denied that any professor had been fired or that any actions had been set in motion to dismiss any professor.

Madden wrote a memo indicating he did not intend to seek reappointment to his teaching position next year," Copley explained. "He said he had trouble with creationism. I accepted his memo and thought that was it."

Copley said the decision not to renew Davis' contract had nothing to do with the creationism issue. Copley described Davis as a popular teacher and said no complaints about Davis' teaching had ever been filed by students.

The Missouri Baptist College president declined to comment about the charges by Herman except in off-therecord statements.

In an interview with Word and Way, Madden renewed his charges he was being pressured out of the college because of his stand about teaching evolution.

He said pressure to teach "creation science" has been growing for about a year and a half. But he indicated the issue came to a head following two letters from Gary Taylor, pastor of Tower Grove Baptist Church in St. Louis.

In one of those letters, Taylor wrote, "Unless there are some changes, I cannot in good conscience continue to support Missouri Baptist College."

Last year Taylor became involved "Around the end of September, Dr. in the school's academic program, ob-

jecting to a history textbook used in one of Herman's classes which described the earth as billions of

The most recent letters followed a complaint by a former student at Tower Grove Christian School concerning a zoology textbook that begins by depicting "periods of time interspersed with pictures of animals in the process of evolution."

The end result was a decision to secure new textbooks "which would be more acceptable to Baptists" and to correct an imbalance in library holdings on the topic of evolution and creationism.

Copley said when he uses the term 'creationism" he means a "basic simple understanding that God did it." When asked if his stance implied that God did the creation in seven days, Copley retorted, "You are trying to put words in my mouth and I'm not going to let you do that. I said what I meant. God did it."

Madden said that was not what the president told him or other science faculty members they had to teach. "I've always taught that God created all that is; that God sustains all that is and that he continues to do so.

Evolution does not deal with creation. Evolution organizes the changes that have occurred after creation into an understandable form," Madden

Madden said he was instructed to teach creationism with its views that the earth is between 6,000 and 10,000 years old and God placed dinosaur bones in the earth to confuse men but there were no such things as dinosaurs. He said professors were instructed to teach that evolution is an incorrect theory and that creationism

Bob Terry edits the Word and Way in Missouri.

Maryland/Delaware debates resolutions

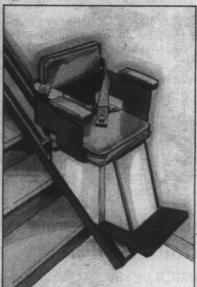
NEWARK, Del. (BP) - resolution coming from the convening their 152nd annual session Nov. 9-11 in Newark, Del.

Messengers voted 361-111 to substitute a resolution affirming the right of private interpretation of the Bible and the Baptist Faith and Message statement for a proposed of tomorrow.

Maryland/Delaware Baptists over- tion's Resolutions Committee. The whelmingly approved resolutions af- proposed resolution, presented by mafirming the priesthood of believers jority vote of the five-member comand the current administration and mittee, asked messengers and convenfaculty of Southeastern Seminary durtion staff voluntarily to affirm adherence to the doctrinal statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963.

The liquor of today is the hangover





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QUESTION

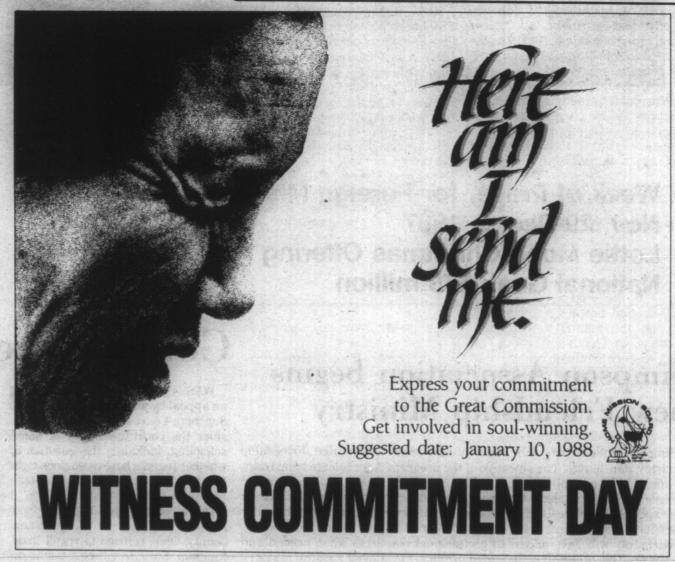
I am torn between my family and the girl I love. There was a big fight and my parents say if I continue to see her, I can't live at home anymore. I can't afford to move out, unless I move in with my girl. But I'm not ready for marriage and I don't want to completely destroy my relationship with my parents. What can I do?

ANSWER

Your situation is complicated by the fact that you are financially dependent on your parents, at least until you finish your education. You mention only two choices, but perhaps there is a third choice: to work out a compromise which would satisfy their feelings and your own needs as well.

Perhaps they are concerned that you are becoming too serious too soon. or they may not feel that this is the right girl for you. Most parents feel that way to some extent, but they can accept and appreciate the person if they get to know each other as individuals. Maybe they see this girl as a threat to your career. When you know their objections you will be in a better position to work out a compromise.

The main point is to make decisions, not just on the basis of your immediate feelings, but in terms of your long-range welfare. To go against your own moral standards and your family's values by moving in with this girl would only create more conflict, upheaval, and guilt. If you demonstrate to your folks that both of you are able to make wise choices and stick to your goals, they may begin to feel differently about her. Your patience and openness will be the key to being able to hold onto both relationships.





Choir sings at village

The youth choir of Oakdale Church, Rankin County, presented the musical drama. "Surrender," by Claire and Curt Cloninger for the Sunday afternoon worship service at the India Nunnery Campus of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village. Curtis Baker, church organist (front row, far left), portrayed the role of the servant. The musical was directed by Miss Susan M. Clark, minister of music and youth (second row, far right). Alan Kilgore is pastor.

capsules



Home Life editor elected

NASHVILLE (BP) - Charlie Warren, associate editor of the Baptist and Reflector, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, has been named editor of Home Life magazine.

Warren, 40, will assume his new duties in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department Jan. 1, 1988.

Home Life has been published by the Sunday School Board for 40 years and has a monthly circulation of more than 725,000.

October is best

NASHVILLE (BP) - Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program enjoyed its best first month this October when receipts totaled \$11,004,930, the best October in its 62-year history and the seventh best month.

The Cooperative Program goal for the current fiscal year is \$140 million. Receipts for the current fiscal year must average slightly more than \$11.7 million for each of the remaining 11 months if that goal is to be reached.

N.C. convention: record attendance

GREENSBORO, N.C. (BP) -North Carolina Baptists - 5,638 strong - elected three officers endorsed by the "Friends of Missions" organization, adopted resolutions affirming the administration, staff, faculty and student body of Southeastern Seminary and the staff and work of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; approved a \$28 million Cooperative Program budget for 1988; and accepted an invitation to enter into a five-year mission partnership with the Sao Paulo, Brazil, Baptist Convention.

Ted Stone, a Durham drug rehabilitation advocate, was the first candidate nominated for the presidency being vacated by William Poe of Charlotte who served the maximum two-term limit. Stone was nominated by Henry Cook, pastor of Beulah God we can do it," he said.

Church, Statesville.

Ned Mathews, pastor of Parkwood Church, Gastonia, was nominated by Dale Lawson, pastor of Mulberry Church, Charlotte. The final nomination was made by W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Seminary and a member of Wake Forest Church, Wake Forest, who proposed Leon Smith, pastor of First Church, Goldsboro.

Messengers elected Smith by a wide margin on the first ballot, giving him 62.3 percent (3,375) of the tabulated votes. Mathews was second with 36.3 percent (1,967) and Stone placed third with 1.3 percent (73) of the votes.

Six continents at Ruschlikon

RUSCHLIKON, SWITZERLAND -The International Baptist Seminary here can easily defend its name this year. In fact intercontinental would come closer to describing this semester's student body in which six Continents are represented this year. A breakdown by Continents of the 69 students from 19 nations who are enrolled in the school shows the

- 44 students from 10 European nations represented (Austria, Denmark, England, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, and Yugoslavia)

- 5 students from 3 African nations (Ghana, Kenya, and Malawi)
- 8 students from North America — 5 students from South America
- (Brazil) - 5 students from Asia (Burma, India, and Kenya,
- 2 students from Australia

The international character of the student body can be seen also among the twenty married couples: in four of the couples the husband and wife are from two different countries.

Many of the students made great sacrifices to come to Ruschlikon. None of them, however, can surpass that made by Tu Lum from Burma: he left the church where he was pastor, his wife and six children for a four-year study programme here. "It will be difficult, but with the help of gifts and pledges_have hit \$42.7 already received.

The campaign will provide for a million just four years ago.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) - Sam- fieldhouse, a 450-student residential ford University's \$28 million fund- village; a school of nursing; six enraising campaign has been called to dowed chairs of instruction; phara halt after only 18 months, because macy school improvements; computer labs. The campaign helped million, with \$30 million in cash raise the university's endowment to more than \$30 million, up from \$7

Senior Adult Corner

Mississippi composer performs in Alabama

Irene Martin, composer and writer from Harperville, was the accompanist for her composition, Meet and Eat, There IS Something More, last week at Heritage Church in Montgomery, Ala. This is a senior adult musical and was sung by the senior adult choir of the church during the evening service.

During the morning service she was soloist for her composition, The Desert Shall Blossom like the Rose, and presented her own arrangement of a medley of songs for the offertory. On Saturday night she entertained the senior adults of the church at a banquet.

She is computer operator for the Baptist Record and keyboard clinician for the Convention Board's' Church Music Department.

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Miller hosted a luncheon Nov. 19 in their home for the senior adult Sunday School classes of Calvary Church in Silver Creek. After the lunch and a time of fellowship, Mr. Miller gave a reading

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Delivered by Christmas. Shipped next day. Bible board game - ages 10 to adults. Great teaching tool. Fun to play. \$15 each, shipping included. Essence Publications, Route 2, Box 127, Buffalo, Missouri and shared a prayer.

The oldest member attending the luncheon was Mrs. Lillie Sharp, who is 96 years young. Until a few years ago, Mrs. Sharp was regular in church attendance and had been active in the Lawrence County Association WMU for over 50 years.

"To these Senior Adults and others like them, we, the younger generation who are taking their places of service, thank God for them and the strong Christian foundation they have given us," says Mrs. Rebecca S. Miller.

Jones churches send thanks

Thursday, December 3, 1987

The fellowships of Bethlehem, Lawn Haven, and Glade Churches in Jones County passed a joint resolution expressing thanks for the help received after the Feb. 28 tornado that swept through their communities.

The resolution specifies thanks to their sister churches in the association, to Maurice Flowers and Russell Cottingham, to convention churches, to the MBCB Brotherhood Department, to the Jones County Junior College BSU, and to all others "who stepped in and gave leadership in the clean-up, food and clothing distribution, shelter assistance, rebuilding manpower and money, and moral and spiritual encouragement."

By 1990, the population of Asia is predicted to exceed what the entire population of the world was in 1960. Less than 1 percent are Christian. Pray that the multitudes of Asians who have not yet heard the gospel will have opportunity to experience Jesus' love and life eternal.

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Just for the Record



Pictured, are members of New Hope Church, Foxworth, who have attended Sunday School ranging from one year to 32 years. B. B. Stringer has been in Sunday School every Sunday for the past 32 years.

en función recentión de auto

Front row, Amy Lowery, Tiffany Kroner, and Karla Ratliff. Third Row, Corey Pittman, April Stringer, Julie Lowery, Bonnie Pittman, Kenyon White, Brandon Slocum, and Bradley

Fourth Row, Nancy Thomas, Jimmy Thomas, B. B. Stringer, Buck Blackwell, Donald Lowery, and Pastsy Lowery. Tommy King is interim pastor.

Old Pearl Valley Church, Philadelphia, had an old fashioned day in November. This was a part of the church's Thanksgiving season to give thanks for 13 baptisms in the previous church year and for leading Neshoba Association's county churches in baptisms. The ladies were dressed in 1840's style long dresses and the men in overalls. Sammy J. McDonald is pastor. This event was sponsored by the Youth Department Council, who held a luncheon for the youth fund.



Stringer



First Church, Brookhaven, held its Acteens Recognition Service, Sept. 23. Pictured, front row, is Josette McManus, Queen Regent. Second row, left to right, are Queens, Natalie Dickinson, Kelsey Logan, Karen Gartman, and Paige Craig. Third row, Jennifer Johnson, Lynn White, Kathryn Gartman, Kathy Smith, and Sue Lee.



The D. J. Barnes family gave Coldwater Church, Philadelphia, a sign in memory of D. J. Barnes who served as a deacon and held other jobs over the years. His wife, Mrs. Sadie Barnes, stands by the sign.



East Booneville Church, Booneville, had a note burning celebration of paying off all loans and debts, Sunday evening, Oct. 25. The church is now debt free.

Pictured, left to right, are the deacons, front row, J. T. Cartwright, Rickey Hannon, Barry Yearber, Kaye Shields, chairman, Dale Funderburg, pastor, Melvin Church, Bobby Borden, and Simpson Street. Back row, are Robert Dodson, Errett Barnes, James Johnson, Ozell Shields, Marvin Burcham, James Lewis, James Hannon, and Willie Gardner.



Youth and Singles of Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, recently attended the second annual Dawson McAllister/Al Denson Youth Conference in Memphis. They also sang in the Sunday morning service at Colonial Hills Church, Southaven. Coyouth directors are on first row left, David Price and first row right, Robby Jones. Music director is Mrs. Peggy Blackwell

nual session Oct. 19 adopted a resolution requesting that the Mississippi Baptist Convention in its annual session dedicate the Convention Annual to Dan Carter Hall, director, Church Music Department, MBCB, who died Oct. 17, 1987.

In part, the resolution stated, "Dan Hall has served his Lord and Mississippi Baptists with unselfish commitment, untiring determination, and undeniable success; the musical worship of many churches of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association has been enhanced as a result of Dan Hall's many years of innovative leadership."

The Mississippi Baptist Convention did vote to dedicate the Annual to Dan C. Hall and also to two other Convention Board leaders who had died this year, Joe Abrams, retired associate editor of the Baptist Record, and Harold Kitchings, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation.

The combined choirs of Sandy Hook Baptist Church and Sandy Hook

The Gulf Coast Association in its an- United Methodist Church will present the musical "Merry Christmas With Love," at 7 p.m., Dec. 5 and Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. The musical will be presented using a "Christmas Dessert Format" in the fellowship hall of the Baptist church. Guest soloist will be Marvin Miller of Hattiesburg and Libby Morecraft of Jennings, Mo. Reservations are requested, and can be made by contacting any member of the choir or by calling (601)-795-2370. Steve Howard is minister of music.

> Rehobeth Church, Rankin County, will have dedication and open house for its new pastorium, Sunday, Dec. 6, 2-4 p.m.

Martis Jenkins is pastor.

Beverly McMillan, Jackson, obstetrician/gynecologist, will give her testimony concerning the pro-life issue at Central Church, Brandon, on Trickham Bridge Road, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. Children's church will have a puppet show and a nursery is provided.

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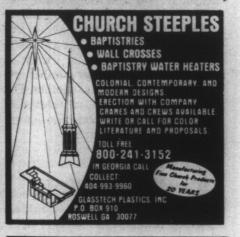
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The Rouses

Family serves in "My House Ministries"

The Rouse family of Lumberton serve through "My House Ministries," a family oriented music and preaching ministry.

Billy Joe and Rhonda were brought up in small towns, he in Lumberton and she in Crossett, Ark. They both attended major universities and majored in music. They have served various churches in Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, in over ten years in music and youth ministry. Their three daughters are Laura, 11; Joy, 10; and Leah, 6.

Now, Billy Joe said, they sense a need in the church for a direct ministry of encouragement to families. "My family and I want so much to minister to other families and encourage them to stay together. The Lord has used us to reach many, but there are so many others who are going to the divorce courts.'

In addition to the family and music ministry, Billy Joe has been called to

The Rouses are available for concerts, conferences, revivals, rallies, sings, or family emphasis services. They are members of First Baptist Church, Lumberton, and may be contacted through the mail at Rt. 2, Box 147-A, Lumberton, Miss. 39455 or by phone, 601-796-3683. Or they may be contacted through their pastor, Wendall Ward, at 601-796-8188, before noon Mon.-Fri.

Names in the News

28th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg was structor in education at Camprecognized on Sunday, Nov. 15, during bellsville College. Campbellsville, Ky.,

the morning wor-

ship service with the presentation of a plaque and a reflection of memories of the past five years. A reception was held in his honor following the evening worship hour. Since he

McMillan became pastor in 1983 there have been elementary education from the 100 baptisms, 271 additions and a total over \$70,000 has been given to missions.

He is married to the former Katera McDaniel and they have two children, Rachel and Rebekah.



Concord Church, Tippah Association honored Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Crawford for 17 years of service as treasurer and secretary, Sunday morning, Nov. 8. Presenting the plaque to Margie and Daryl Crawford is W. G. Dowdy, pastor.

Briarwood Church, Meridian, celebrated its 20th year as a church on Oct 19. Thomas J. Wood, the only



pastor the church has ever had, was honored on the occasion. The church presented him with a set of Barth's Karl "Church Dogmaticis."

The church began as Ponta Hills Independent Church in July 1966 and voted to become Briarwood Baptist Church, October 1969.

Kevin Taylor has been called as youth minister at Kittiwake Church.

Barton Church has called Tim Hatcher, student at New Orleans Seminary, as youth and activities director on a part-time basis. He grew up at Barton and is now living at Wiggins.

Spring Hill Church (Copiah) has called Blake Scafidel as minister of music and youth, effective Nov. 22.

He is a second year student at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College at

Scafidel recently served in the Pelahatchie.

First Church, Gulfport, has a new educational secretary, Lynn Hair, and Felice Trippe is the new music and youth secretary.

WARSAW, POLAND - Some 560 children participated in 13 regional and national summer camps organized by the Polish Baptist Union in 1987. Approximately one-third of the children were from families in which neither parent is a Baptist. The twoweek camp programmes included same capacity at Rehobeth Church in lessons on the principles of the Christian faith.

Mississippi Baptist activities

Gibbie McMillan, pastor of South Beth Broome has been named in-

according to announcement from Robert S. Clark, academic vice president.

Mrs. Broome is a graduate of Hattiesburg High School. She received her bachelor of science degree in

Broome University of Southern Mississippi. In 1985, she received her master of arts degree in elementary education from William Carey College.

Mrs. Broome is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. McArthur of Hattiesburg, Miss. She is married to Douglas G. Broome, who is director of technical services at Campbellsville College's Montgomery Library.

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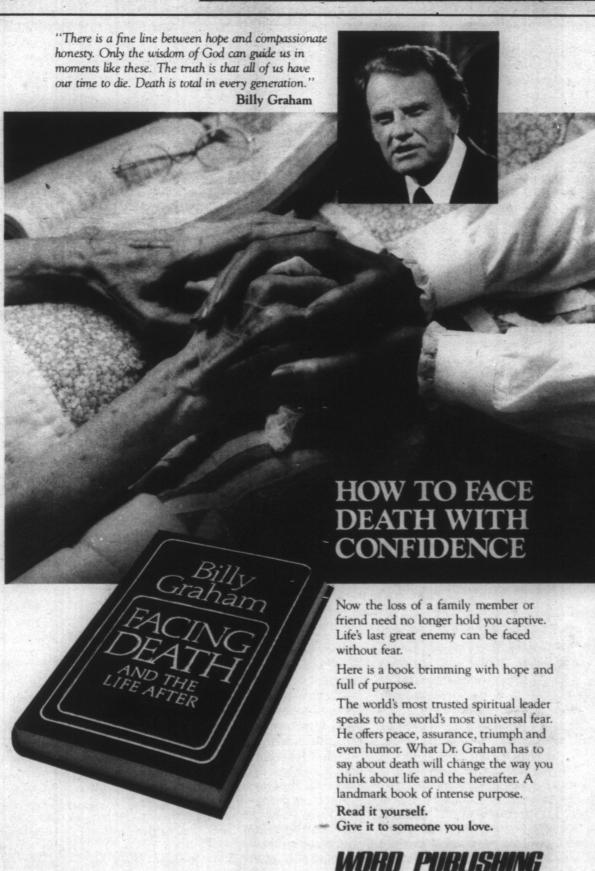
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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

Salvation: Only with repentance

By Julian W. Fagan III Matthew 3:1-12

He was a different kind of person. He lived in the desert of Judea which stretched from the plateau on which Jerusalem and Bethlehem



were situated down to the Jordan River and to the Dead Sea. The river was about 20 miles from Jerusalem at its closest point. John was a simple man in his dress and diet. His lifestyle was a direct statement against the selfindulgence that was so prominent in the Jewish leader-

ship. John's father was Zechariah, a priest; his mother was Elizabeth, a relative of Mary (Lk. 1:36), the mother of Jesus. John was six months older than Jesus (Lk. 1:36), but John stated that he did not know Jesus (Jn. 1:31).

John grew up in the wilderness and lived there until he appeared publicly to Israel (Lk. 1:80). God could have chosen anyone to be the forerunner of the Christ, but he chose John; he did not choose the leaders of the world, or the religious leaders, but a man in the wilderness (Lk. 3:1-2). He did so because this man had a

UNIFORM

heart for God. He had a lonely task. John described his task as that of one crying in the wilderness (Jn. 1:23, Mt. 3:3). He was a voice of God. He was the fulfillment of Scripture.

John's message was as simple as his lifestyle, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." He called for people to make a radical change in their attitude toward God. He called for them to turn the focus of their lives away from themselves and their religion to the one and only God. The repentance which John preached was to be reflected not only in a change in attitude and heart but also in lifestyle. The hearers were to produce in their lives fruit that was in keeping with a profession of repentance.

Repentance is more than an inner attitude and an outward statement. It is a change so complete that the life in which it occurs is altered dramatically in behavior. Repentance is not only profound sorrow; it is profound change. It is done in privacy; it is made publicly. That is why John insisted upon the repentant being baptized. Baptism was the public statement of inner repentance. Sorrow for one's sins is one thing; genuine repentance is radical

and public. It is accompanied by an equivalent change in lifestyle and attitude. One thing about repentance is always true: it is apparent to all when it occurs. Genuine repentance is obvious; when it is not evident in a changed life, the genuineness is questionable.

That was exactly John's point to the Pharisees and Sadducees who came to the river to watch him baptize repentant people. He warned them their blood relationship to others before them would not make them children of God. Neither would their place in the religious institution. The ax of God was already swinging toward the root of the trees that were pretending to be the children of God. God's judgment was on its way.

This lesson has vital importance for members of our Sunday School classes. First, repentance is possible with God's help. The Spirit of God convicts of sin and the need for Jesus. Salvation will come to all who respond to the Spirit and turn from their sins. Second, repentance is urgent. There is little time left; the ax is swinging to cut down all who refuse the Messiah. The greatest lie of Satan is that there is no hurry, there is plenty of time. State this truth to your class members. There is no salvation without repentance.

Third, take courage as a teacher of God's

word; people will respond. Multitudes came to hear John and were baptized as they repented of their sins. People will respond to the call of salvation; they long to be forgiven and restored to right relationship with God.

Fourth, warn your members not to trust anything or anyone else for their salvation. They are only safe in Jesus Christ; no one comes to the Father except through him.

Finally, emphasize the importance of an open and public declaration of repentance. John and Jesus called all people to respond to God in a public way. Baptism is the way Jesus gave for believers to publicly identify with him. Jesus said that if we would not acknowledge him before men; he would not acknowledge us before his Father in heaven. The gospel of Jesus Christ is a wonder; it is the love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness of God. Salvation is freely given to all who believe. However, salvation only comes to those who repent of their sins; and God is no respecter of persons. He will judge all who refuse to turn to him and repent. He will give life to all who repent and believe.

Christmas is coming. May the message of this lesson bring to your class members the salvation the Christ child made available to the world:

Julian Fagan is pastor, First, Pontotoc.

Growth in Christlikeness is the desire of believers

By Al Finch Philippians 3:7-16

Growth toward Christian maturity is the desire of all believers. The process is rewarding but costly. Paul stated his effort to achieve his



maturity in Christ. His

statement will be helpful to all who seek to grow in Christ.

Paul's VALUE SYSTEM is the first stage of Christian maturity (Philippians 3:7-8). His goal was to know "the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord." This goal demanded a value system that made all things

LIFE AND WORK

life Christ is to outweigh all things that may be man's gain. All of Paul's status in the flesh was forfeited. For Paul's status in the flesh, read Philippians 3:4-6. Yet these things were not equal to Christ in Paul's priorities.

The GOAL that determines the value system is to know Christ (Philippians 3:10-11). Paul desired a knowledge of Christ, who shared his life. The gospel included the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ. One must participate in this process for salvation and maturity. We die with Christ to receive the power that resurrected him from the grave. We die in order to live. The paradox of Christian maturity is that in losing one gains, or in dying one lives. Two expressions give the urgency of the goal: "That I may know him" and "I might attain."

The PROCEDURE of attaining the goal is given in Philippians 3:12-14. Paul has not arrived; he was in process. He was laying hold (apprehending) that for which he had been laid hold (apprehended) by Jesus Christ.

Two procedures were involved: First, he buried the past in a mental game. Part of the genius of the human mind is not only to remember, but to forget. If one matures in Christ he is not constantly opening his mental closet and examining his trophies or his skeletons. The first step of maturity is forgetting.

Second, Paul was pressing toward the mark, to win "the prize of the high calling of God in

Christ Jesus." This is the picture of the Olympic sprinter. In the race he is "reaching forth" for the goal line. All of the energy is expended to reach the mark. The other runners and the crowd in the stadium are ignored to achieve the prize for winning.

Maturity achieved must be guarded with the same intensity with which it was received (Philippians 3:15-16). We "walk by the same rules." There is no status achieved that does not demand vigilance to retain. Maturity demands a mental resolution to continue growing in Christ. Constantly we must maintain ground already gained in Christ. God will assist the mature in reminding them of their double mindedness. Only single-minded effort achieves and maintains.

Al Finch is pastor, First, Greenwood.

Abraham's dealings with Abimelech and Hagar

By Rex Yancey Genesis 20:2-3, 7-9; 21:1-3, 9-13

secondary to winning Christ. On the scales of

Abraham once again lapsed into a faithless scheming as he seemed to trade away the promise of God for his personal safety. His Egyp-



tian experience should have been a deterrent, but the Bible pictures honestly the lapses of its great characters. If this promise from God is ever fulfilled in his life, it will not be because of Abraham's doing. Abimelech was probably

a royal title. The name means "the king (God) is

my father." Why would this king want Sarai at her age? We must remember that the patriarchal life-span approximately doubled our own. Abraham died at 175 and Sarai at 127. Abraham at over 100 in chapter 22 has the vitality of a man of seventy. Sarai's sixties would possibly correspond with our thirties or forties, and her ninety at Isaac's birth with perhaps our late fifties. At this age, she was past childbearing, yet not past the thought of matrimony. To Abimelech, whether she was beautiful or not,

BIBLE BOOK

Sarai was marriageable for her wealth and for the alliance that would be confirmed with her so-called brother, Abraham.

In 20:3-7, God recognized that Abimelech did not have an evil intent in his heart for Sarai. Having been warned of God of the deception of Abraham, he is obligated to restore her to her

The term prophet is used here in the Bible for the first time. The Hebrew term for prophet is nabi. A prophet was a spokesman for God and one who interceded between God and men. Abraham was not a preacher-prophet like Elijah, Isaiah and Jeremiah. The Hebrew canon of the Old Testament distinguished between the non-writing prophets (Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings) and the writing prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and the twelve minor

Abimelech confronted Abraham about his deception. Abraham did not just out-right lie, but he did tell a half-truth. Deception is deception. He thought that since his morals must be better than the morals of what he thought to be

a pagan society, the situation merited deception. Abraham could have written a book on situation ethics. Sarai was actually a blood relative, perhaps Terah's granddaughter. However, she was also Abraham's wife.

In 21:1-3, Isaac was born in Sarai and Abraham. Imagine how this family, who had seemingly passed the age of childbearing, had to adjust to a new baby in the family. Isaac means "laughter." The previous laughter had been in unbelief. However, the laughter of Sarai in this passage of scripture is a laughter of joy and belief.

Abraham had waited some 25 years from the initiation of the promise to the fulfillment of that promise. God's time table and ours may not always be the same. Patience is a virtue. However, as Abraham learned, the promises of God are steadfast and sure.

In verses 9-13, Ishmael was observed by Sarai to be mocking her son, Isaac. Ishmael was probably a young teenager while Isaac was at weaning age. Sarai had already had some bad thoughts against Hagar and Ishmael. Now, those thoughts cropped up again as Ishmael was bragging about the fact that he was the heir apparent to Abraham.

God assured Abraham that he would not forget Ishmael. Ishmael would become a great nation, but the line of spiritual succession would be that of Isaac.

Abraham's kindness is evident in the provision he made for Hagar and Ishmale. Hagar had some mellow moments as she left the patriarchal tent of Abraham. However, God assured her concerning Ishmael's future and revealed a fountain of water which revived mother and son.

Rex Yancey is pastor, First, Quitman.

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J. L. & Faithy Knight Mr. & Mrs. Bill Triplett & Patricia Christy Lane Butler Mrs. Harry J. Vickery Mrs. Mildred Carmichael Ann Smith Javne Woods



Shown above are Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Lucas, daughter and son-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Kelly, granddaughter and grandson-in-law; Andy Butler, Jeremy Presley, and Joel Presley, great grandsons.



Shown above are Mr. Aubrey Boone, Executive Secretary of The Baptist Foundation; Mrs. Calvin (Sue) Lucas, daughter of Mrs. Thigpen; Dr. Kermit D. McGregor, Director of Public Relations with The Baptist Children's Village.

The Ora Moody Thigpen Trust Fund Benefits Are For The Baptist Children's Village

As a lasting memorial to a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, church worker and consistent contributor to "Mississippi's Largest Family", the ORA MOODY THIGPEN TRUST FUND has been established by Mrs. Thigpen's children, at Mississippi Baptist Foundation with interest earnings to be distributed regularly as unrestricted income to The Baptist Children's Village.

The donors, Mrs. Thigpen's children, are: Mrs. Calvin (Sue) Lucas of Jackson, active in Broadmoor Baptist Church; Mr. J. A. (Bud) Thigpen, Jr. of Cleveland, active in First Baptist Church, Cleveland; Mrs. George (Ruth) Morrow of Memphis, Tennessee, active in First Evangelical Church, Memphis; and Mr. Kenneth Thigpen of Orlando, Florida, active in First Baptist Church, Orlando.

Mrs. Thigpen's family say they "never remember an appeal from The Village she did not respond to." When a daughter had three dresses, "one was to go to The Village." When new shoes were purchased, the used but exceptionally "good shoes" were sent to The Village. When visiting relatives in other parts of the state, inevitably the automobile stopped at The Village to leave something for "the children."

Mrs. Thigpen, a native of Pearl River County, the

daughter of Mr. J. Solomon (Sol) Moody and Mrs. Cynthia Crain Moody, was baptized in First Baptist Church, Poplarville. She was married to Mr. Judson A. Thigpen and lived for many years in Shaw where they were active in Shaw Baptist Church.

In the early 1950's the Thigpens moved to Jackson and were active in First Baptist Church, Jackson. Mrs. Thigpen enjoyed her assignment roles in WMU in the churches she attended.

Normally a very private and reserved individual with a dry sense of humor, she was a "family oriented person" who encouraged her husband to achieve as a farmer, legislator and Welfare Commissioner. She also supported her husband as he served with Governor Hugh White and the Public Service Commission until his retirement.

According to Executive Director Paul N. Nunnery. the ORA MOODY THIGPEN TRUST FUND has been established as a part of THE MISSISSIPPI MISSION, an Endowment effort for the three Baptist Colleges and The Children's Village. Both First Baptist, Cleveland and Broadmoor Baptist, Jackson will receive credit for contributions to this fund.

Mrs. Bess Carpenter TEL Sunday School Class, Poplar Springs BC, Meridian

Shelton Carraway Stanton Baptist Church Bill Carson Mrs. Opal Vickers Seymore F. Carter Joyce & James Faulkner Pam Cascio T. L., Barbara & Aprile Curry Richard Gene Cash Mr. & Mrs. Dutch Farmer

Ms. Ann Beck Collier Mr. Fred O. Chevalier Mrs. Julia James (To be continued)

HONORS

Baby of Tim & Loria Burt Mrs. Thelma Jennings Mr. & Mrs. Harrell Byrd Ann Smith Jayne Woods Mrs. Ruth Gullege Faith Sunday School Class, FBC, Grenada Mr. & Mrs. John Keeton, Jr. Mrs. E. C. Hayward Jr. Ms. Eva Legett Mrs. Marjorie H. Steen Mrs. Ora Mae McAlpin Ruth Bible Class Mrs. Ida Lee Oswalt Mrs. Minnie Lee Hester Mrs. Mattie Rials & Mrs. Sybil Håyne Lydia Sunday School Class, FBC, McComb Rev. & Mrs. John Allen Wade

Curry & Juanita Carroll

Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Bevill

Callie B. Young

Christmas **— 1987 —**

Holiday greetings from the special boys and girls who make their homes at each of the six different Village facilities! On their behalf, we thank you again for every manifestation of your interest and concern during 1987. Our big family, Mississippi's largest, extends to you and your family, its best wishes for a joyous Christmas season and a New year filled with a genuine sense of peace and good will.

The Christian observation of Christmas is more meaningful, perhaps, to children and the family, than to any other segment of society. Even the traditional, seasonal gifts represent assistance in communicating the gospel of grace to children in an understandable and believable manner. As Christmas invades your hearth and home with its reminders of spiritual and emotional strengths which make your home safe, and with material plenty which makes your holiday merry, we hope you will recall the needs of Village boys and girls in your Christmas prayers and in your holiday giving.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Shul I Thennery

PAUL N. NUNNERY **Executive Director**

The above message has been mailed to Village Friends (December 1) as a reminder of Children's needs. Join the growing number of caring Mississippians by mailing your contribution to:

> The Baptist Children's Village P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213 Telephone (601) 922-2242

Faces And Places

by anne washburn me williams

Needed: Bone marrow for Ike

The brown-eyed boy in the doorway looked the right size for a seven-yearold. "Are you Ike?" I asked.

"Yes," he answered, and flashed an endearing smile of welcome. He held the screen open for me to enter. Behind him stood his brother Wayne, 5. Later, as Joahn Campbell and I sat on the couch in a sunny, cheerful room, Ike modeled his Indian outfit for his mother and me, the name "Brave Chief" emblazoned on his headband.

Ike has Fanconi's aplastic anemia, classified as 100 percent fatal, a blood disease so rare that only 175 families in the United States have children diagnosed with it. Few of its victims have lived to be 20.

Ike's disease's origin is genetic, developed because his mother, Joahn, and his father, Joseph, both carry a gene which appears in only of every 300 adults. Chromosomal damage prevents the bone marrow from functioning. Thus, there is a deficiency of red cells, white cells, and platelets. Lack of the first can cause congestive heart failure; lack of the second leaves the victim unprotected from all kinds of infections; and lack of the third can cause severe internal bleeding.

Inside the grandfather clock in the living room, the pendulum slowly swung, in delicate balance. Thus swings the strong but delicate thread of Ike's life as he waits for a bone marrow transplant, the only known treatment for Fanconi's

When Ike was 4, the Campbells moved to Starkville. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Tom Price diagnosed the illness. Joseph Campbell, from Brandon, is a 4-H youth development specialist with the Extension Service. His wife is the former Joahn Haas of Tupelo. They live at 56 Morgan Street, near the university.

"Ike is aware of most that is going on," his mother said. At age 4 he sensed that his parents were troubled about his illness. One day he asked, "Mama, am I going to die?"

"What do you think?" she asked. "No. God has not told me it's my time to die yet."

"And so," Joahn said to me recenthave looked at this also."

Campbells spoke at First Baptist Leukocyte Antigen.) Church, Starkville, where they are members, and told of their search for a donor of bone marrow that would match Ike's.



Ike, 7, and Wayne, 5, enter their reading

Doctors have tested over 50 family members for a matching donor, but have found not one. Now they are looking for a matching unrelated donor. Around 100 of the Starkville congregation have volunteered to be typed as possible donors. If any other church group wants to help, Joahn said, it can do three things: (1) Pray. (2) Volunteer to be bone marrow donors. (If several in a church want to be tested for a match, they should call Campbell at Starkville, 601-324-3605, so she can arrange for a mobile lab to visit their area. Roche Laboratories of Jackson and Oktibbeha County Hospital have agreed to handle any potential blood donations to be tested for a fee of only \$50. This is at no cost to the donor.) (3) Contribute to the funds to pay the lab fees. (Such a fund has been set up at First Baptist Church, Starkville.)

The type testing is done by taking a blood sample from the arm. ly, "that's the way his father and I However, the required match is not in blood, but in tissue type carried by the On Sunday, November 15, both white blood cells (the HLA or Human

> To give marrow, a donor would be put to sleep and the marrow drawn from the hip

Requirements are that a bone mar-

row donor be between 18 and 50; in good general health; have no history of heart disease, cancer, hepatitis, or AIDS; and be willing to allow test results to be included in an HLA registry for future reference. Over the past three years the Campbells have checked with many HLA registries, in such places as Seattle, Paris, and London. The nearest in this area are in Louisiana and Kentucky.

If the test shows some common characteristics, donor blood is mixed with Ike's to grow a culture and measure reaction. Twice they have come close to a match (with potential donors from Minnesota and Wisconsin), but Ike's blood was too reactive.

The steroids the doctors have been prescribing for Ike for three years are beginning to lose their effect. "Most kids get about a five-year response from them," Joahn said.

Ike stated first grade this year, but a stomach virus sent him to the hospital and then home. A teacher teaches him at home three times a week.

"The odds are one in 10,000 of finding a matching unrelated donor," the younger mother said. Since they have been looking for three years, they should be coming nearer the goal. They feel the odds are better in Mississippi and Alabama, since both Joahn and Joseph's tamilies have been in the two states for several generations. Even with the great odds, "we still want to make the effort," she said. "With all who are tested being added to a Registry, we feel we will help someone somewhere."

Should we have a nuclear accident like the one at Chernobyl, many would suddenly have acquired aplastic anemia. (Such victims usually die within three months.) A Registry for such cases would be invaluable.

No known related mismatches have been successful, but if they do not find an unrelated donor who is a good match, the Campbells say they will try a mismatch using one of them.

Not long ago, Ike and Wayne were listening as their mother read the Bible story about Naaman being healed of leprosy after being dipped seven times in a river's muddy water.

"If I were dipped in muddy water, ould that heal me?" Ike asked.

would have to tell you to do that before it would heal you."

"I know how God is going to heal me," the boy said. "He's going to do it with a bone marrow transplant."

Baptist Kerord

Devotional

Are you a person or a human person?

By David Allen

Several years ago, while I was still in seminary in Fort Worth, I read an article in the local paper about a man who was very well known in Southern Baptist life who was involved in a very public way in the re-election campaign

for a pro-abortionist U.S. Representative from Texas. I wrote to this man expressing my concern and great disappointment that he would be publicly politicking for a man who was so committed to the legalized murder of a newborn. He wrote me a rather lengthy letter trying to explain to me his views regarding abortion and pre-birth human life. In the letter he said ". . . the time when a person is actually in existence as a human person is at the time of viability or when one is able to breathe and function part from the body of the mother."

Now I don't know exactly what the difference is between a "person" and a "human person," but I don't think the Bible makes a distinction between the two. My Bible teaches most clearly in the passages dealing with the Advent of our Lord that a person is a person from the moment of conception.

In Luke 1:41, it says that "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb" It didn't say that the baby was a non-human person. It is called a baby. When my wife and I were shown a sonogram of our son while he still lived in her womb we didn't look at him as being a pre-human person. He was just as much Jonathan Allen then as he is today.

In Matthew 1:18 it says of Mary that "she was found with child of the Holy Ghost." This passage not only teaches the wonder of the virgin birth but it also teaches the sanctity of pre-birth human life. If Mary had at any time in her pregnancy had an abortion she would have been taking the very life of the Lord Jesus. The passage about Elizabeth not only teaches that she was carrying a child and not just some abstract P.O.C. (Product of Conception, as abortionists like to call an unborn child) but that she was carrying a child who after six months of life in the womb could already hear and respond to outside sounds

If Elizabeth had been living today and had gone to a pro-abortionist doctor he very well could have told her to abort the baby because due to her advanced age she might have a physically or mentally handicapped child. After all, the reasoning goes today; it would be better for the child to die in the womb than for it to have to suffer from some handicap all its life. That may be the prevalent thought in our godless society, but it is not the thought of our loving God. To him, all human life is precious and should be protected.

I pray that during this blessed season we will recommit ourselves to fighting for the rights of the most innocent and defenseless of all God's creatures, the unborn child. May the unborn child's mother's womb not also become its tomb.

David Allen is pastor, First Church, Shuqualak.



100 PAPER AND PEN GAMES compiled by Ellen Lichtenstein, 34 pages, paperback, \$4.00. This attractively bound small book is filled with pen and paper games suitable for Sunday School class parties, home extension meetings, all kinds of showers and parties, or for travelers. The variety is amazing. The author has included matching, scrambled words, brain teasers, general questions, swit-"No," his mother replied, "God ched letters, similes, hidden words, and other types of quizzes and games. Many of them are on Bible subjects. For instance, Bible women, trees and food in the Bible, Bible characters' occupations, and songs that remind one of Bible people. Some games mention certain holidays. Others are especially for baby showers or kitchen showers. The books may be ordered from Ellen Company, 405 W. Washington #36, San Diego, CA 92103, for \$4.00 plus 50¢ shipping and 24¢ sales tax per book. Besides being full of interesting games, it is of a convenient size to be carried in the purse or pocket. - AWM

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Box 530, Jackson, M

Christians offer to repair damage in Vietnam

once lush with dense forests, is now during the Vietnam War when U.S.

HANOI, Vietnam (EP) - Vietnam, troops sprayed chemical defoliants over some 4.2 million acres of bare and unproductive in many areas woodland. Now, as a gesture of reconafter losing an estimated 38 percent ciliation and in an effort to aid the of its wooded area over the last 30 country's people, the Mennonite Cenyears. Much of the damage took place tral Committee has offered the Vietnam government funding for

reforestation projects in the most badly scarred areas.

MCC is proceeding with the threeyear project, providing \$100,000 for start-up costs.

India trip: "It turned my whole life around"

a half later, Jan Davies is still meant to him." discovering what she learned on a week-long volunteer missions trip she Davies before her husband, Dave, got and her husband took to India.

At first, she didn't want to go. It gave her chest pains just to think about the trip. But when she prayed, a small voice in her mind said, "Janice, there is something there I want to teach you other ways she felt inferior to her husthat you can't learn here."

For 10 days the Southern Baptist volunteer stared into dirty and destitute faces in Bombay, "It turned my whole life around," says Mrs. see as important, they became ex- scoffed. tremely important."

She describes her experience much like other Southern Baptist volunteers who have participated in short-term partnership mission projects with Baptists overseas and have come home with a new perspective that ultimately had an impact on everything around them.

"I've always been the type of person that has never really wanted a lot of company in my home," she says. "It's like, 'My things are my things, and I don't want to share them.' '

But the children in Bombay made an impact on Mrs. Davies, a schoolteacher. Back home she responded by taking in 11 foster children in a nine-month period through an emergency-care program. Many of the children were abused and neglected. She and her husband also have housed three foreign exchange students since the India trip.

Mrs. Davies suddenly saw hellbound people all around Topeka. Many were relatives. She began telling them the truth about spiritual things. "If I don't tell them, the blood is on my hands when they die," she says. "I am going to have to confront God with that, you know.

"It's such an honor and a privilege now. It's not a chore. And it's not an option anymore."

Thinking back, she knows she learned the value of salvation as she was forced to consider just what she could do for the masses of people around her in India. "When you see such poverty as we saw, your first instinct is to give the people something, a material thing," she says. But instead, it occurred to her she was giving them her most precious possession simply by telling them about Jesus. "They required no more," she says.

and had rats running all over their church and had open sewers. God saw such worth in them. He died for them, you're starving spiritually." and he impressed on me I could love

TOPEKA, Kan. (BP) — A year and them because of how much they

Life had been comfortable for Mrs. excited about foreign missions. She had grown up reading the Bible and considered herself knowledgeable about religion. In fact, she thought her knowledge of the Bible made up for band, who became a Christian at 19.

But in 1984 he flew to Brazil on a volunteer mission trip and left her at home. Davies, who runs the Baskin-Robbins ice cream shop the family Davies, a soft-spoken mother of two owns at the southeastern edge of who grew up on a farm in the settle- Topeka, had never intended to be a ment of Soldier, Kan. "The things I missions enthusiast. In fact, when he thought were important seem so first heard an impassioned plea from unimportant now. The things I didn't his pastor for volunteers to Brazil, he

> Davies didn't like strange food and just the thought of flying made him extremely uncomfortable. He had never led anyone to faith in Jesus, and he'd never preached. Bound for Brazil, the plane climbed, but his spirits dropped as he considered his inadequacies. Then, after two weeks of doing all the things he was scared to do, he came home changed.

> He was stunned as he compared the living conditions in Brazil to the house he had moved his family into five months earlier. He told his wife they would sell their home and move into something smaller if they were unable to find a way to use it for God's

> The next year he went on another mission trip, to Zambia in southern Africa. During that trip Mrs. Davies found someone to care for her two young children for a time and gave herself to extensive Bible reading and soul-searching prayer. She was beginning to feel something was missing in her life.

> She saw things in the book of Jeremiah that started her thinking about her unfaithfulness to God. She. also began to see things about her marriage.

> At first she had thought her husband's new missions zeal was "just another tangent." But she began to understand that her attachment to "houses, clothes, new what-nots things, just things" was blocking her understanding of God's plan for them

> 'My quiet time was the pits," she said. "I didn't know how to pray. It was five minutes of read this thing and, 'Oh, dear God, forgive me,' and then

But at one point, as she sat crosslegged in the middle of her living "The thing God brought across to room floor, she saw a mental picture me the most was his love for those of herself as a starving little girl wearpeople — people who were dirty and ing tattered clothes with knotted and had nothing, who lived in little hovels matted hair. "God said to me, 'Janice, this is how you are spiritually. You're starving. You're fat materially, but

Her mind scanned the things

around her. She saw nice furniture, a nice home. "He showed me how I was a (spiritual) adulteress, how I ran after all kinds of things but not him." She repented, and a new sensation emerged. "I felt like a locust, you know, when they come out of the shell and they fly away, and they're free. They're free, but they leave this old locust shell behind. That's exactly how

At his shop, Davies once talked with customers about the weather. Now he shows them a photograph of his trip to Zambia and tells about God. On one occasion Mrs. Davies led an employee into the the back office, where the woman prayed to receive Christ.

This fall she started teaching at Lafayette School, in an area Topekans know as neglected and hardened. She has taught nine years but never to children from such a background. She was afraid when she took the job. But many times as she has been driving and thinking about Lafayette, a voice from within has said, "Jan, this is your Bombay."

Marty Croll writes for the FMB.



Dave and Jan Davies eat an evening meal with their two children, Jesse, 6, and Anna, 4. The couple, of Topeka, Kan., spent about a week working with four churches in the Bombay, India, area and came back with a new outlook on their life. (BP) PHOTO By Stanley Leary

Baptist Kerord

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, December 10, 1987

Foreign teleconference focuses on prayer need

By Susan Todd

call for continued prayer support were ing.' the highlights of the Foreign Missions Teleconference broadcast live Nov. 21 from Nashville.

Bill O'Brien, executive vice president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and host for the teleconference, said during the broadcast, "Our emphasis on prayer during the teleconference is not accidental." He encouraged Southern Baptists' intercessory prayer for foreign missions to "not be-accidental either."

Among the prayer requests which

days of discouragement come, I just fected mission endeavors. don't know if I can get up and give

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) - special measure of strength to go on. Evidence of answered prayer and a We know Southern Baptists are pray-

- Unity. Rick Lane cited the need for unity among Christians and identified prayer as a key factor. "We feel a unity with those who are praying in the United States.'

He also asked that Southern Baptists join him in prayer for unity among one another. "We have been concerned about the division of Southern Baptists," Lane said. He cited its possible effect on missions as a cause for concern.

Economy. One caller questioned surfaced during the teleconference R. Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, about how re-- Strength. "Sometimes when the cent dollar value plunges have af-

"The weakening of the dollar again," said Robin Eberhardt, mis- overseas is the worst thing that can sionary to Grenada, West Indies. happen to our missions work," Parks "Prayer uplifts me and gives me a said. The solution? "We will just need

to give more dollars."

Safety. James and Linda Rice, missionaries to Uganda, have worked in an area of political unrest. Rice told how his thoughts about safety have changed during the past years: "We don't claim that nothing can happen to us. 'Safe' may mean 'safe in the arms of Jesus.' It depends on your definition of safety."

Loneliness. Several missionaries told of battles with aloneness and loneliness. Ruth Dyson, who with her husband, Bert, was the first Southern Baptist missionary couple to Sierra Leone, told of entering the country for the first time.

"Even though we were alone, we did not feel lonely. Prayers helped us feel a surge" of power. "We felt we could almost reach out and touch the prayers," she said.

Susan Todd writes for WMU, SBC.

Guatemalan Baptists dedicate radio station

LAS CASAS, Guatemala (BP) — Guatemalan Baptists and missionaries dedicated a new shortwave radio station Nov. 20 to broadcast the gospel to more than 100,000 K'ekchi'

southern Belize.

Radio K'ekchi' is in the remote town of Las Casas. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board provided funds Indians in northern Guatemala and for equipment and construction of the

Association will pay operating costs and provide staff for the station.

The K'ekchi' people have been responsive to the gospel, missionaries

station's studio. K'ekchi' Baptist report, and more than 100 churches of K'ekchi' Baptist Association are thriving. K'ekchi' Baptists have dedicated

themselves to baptizing 100,000 THERM SAPITST SISTERS Hotorical Commission, 506

Rachylla, Tomeseas



Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Why a new seminary?

announcement that the Southern Baptist Alliance is considering the possibility of establishing a new seminary in the southeastern part of the United States to replace the existing Southeastern Seminary, which the Alliance considers has been lost to the conservative faction of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The news is shocking in that the establishment of a new seminary would be a drastic step in the ongoing struggle for control of the convention, a struggle which has centered in the seminaries. It is not surprising in that the Alliance has begun to flex its muscles and evidently has no intention of being sidetracked.

Those who have not been reading along as this drama has been unfolding need to be aware that the conservative forces now have a majority on the board of trustees of Southeastern Seminary. The majority was reached with the addition of five new members following the Southern Baptist Convention in June and is now said to be 20 to 10. With the majority favoring the conservatives, the trustees began to alter procedures and to require, according to news reports, new procedures that were in contradiction with earlier trustee-established procedures that had not been changed.

To begin, the conservatives failed to re-elect the chairman, Jesse Chapman, a moderate. Then evidently the trustees stepped into administrative

few weeks before the convention that

"under restrictions and censorship."

which is elected by the executive com-

mittee rather than by the convention

itself, created a review board to

review all editorials and articles in the

dismissal of the editor if the board felt

such action was appropriate.

Last year his board of directors,

tegrity."

Shocking but not surprising is the procedures first by changing the procedure for electing faculty members through involving the trustees earlier in the process and taking away facul-/ ty participation. Then one trustee objected to a student-written editorial in the campus newspaper, but he backed off when he found that the newspaper is funded by student fees rather than by the seminary budget.

> The point is that a seminary cannot be administered by the trustees. This can only result in chaos because of the constantly changing nature of the trustees. The trustee had written of his complaint about the newspaper to the director of communications at the seminary, but he should have written the president. The seminary administrative personnel is responsible to the president, and the president is responsible to the trustees. The trustees cannot reasonably run every aspect of the school. The seminary would be flopping around like as fish

> Suffice it to say that because of the above circumstances, both the president and the dean of the faculty at the seminary have resigned their positions. As a result, the Alliance has declared that it is considering the establishment of the new seminary.

But let's think about that. There is no question but that the Alliance can is in the process of making it. begin a new seminary if it wants to. It would receive no Cooperative Program funding. There could be a question of intent, however.

Shirley, pastor of Parkway Church, Tupelo, says he is afraid that Southeastern will wind up a little fundamentalist school. The Alliance, no doubt, will declare that it simply wishes to perpetuate seminary education in the vein that has been under way at Southeastern.

Shirley, by the way, is not a member of the Alliance. He is disturbed also. He declared that he almost walked out of the trustee meeting in March, but he has decided to stay for his final four years and be a voice for freedom. He is in the minority, but he plans to speak anyway.

It is to be admitted that the average Southern Baptist does not really know what is going on in the seminary squabble and may not care particularly. The fact is, however, that we have come to a very important point in this denominational conflict.

What happens to Southeastern Seminary is of great importance, and what the Alliance does about it is of equal importance.

Will Southern Baptists establish a pattern of splitting their efforts when one group does not like what is going on, or will the pattern be to remain in the effort and seek to readjust the directions? That is a highly important decision to be made. A powerful group

Over the past eight years the presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention have been asked to be impartial in their appointments of Mississippi trustee Robert E. members of the committee on com-

BLESS THE LORD, OMY SOUL, AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS " _ PSA.103:Z

YEAR 'ROUND GIFT

have the situation at Southeastern. To influence? establish a new seminary, no matter how much it might be desired in order has been known at Southeastern, prayer. would serve to widen the breach bet-

That is a matter that must have sure we understand what it is. very careful deliberation.

is it better to cut and run because of word for us.

mittees. They have not, and thus we that or to stay and seek to be an

There is no easy answer, so the decision should be made only after careful to continue seminary education as it consideration and a great deal of

Whatever the Lord wants should be ween the two factions in the struggle. the proper course of action. Let's be

This is a very sad moment in Surely it seems that the trustees at Southern Baptist Convention affairs Southeastern have moved quickly and regardless of which "side" one may be heavy handedly since they have on and for those millions who have achieved their majority number. But taken no side. Surely the Lord has a

Guest opinion . . . Editorial freedom

By Presnall H. Wood

Georgia Baptists in their recent When Harwell announced his early state convention struck a note for retirement, he said he could no longer editorial freedom when they voted by live "with restrictions and censorship an estimated 65 to 75 percent majoriplaced upon this newspaper." ty that Jack U. Harwell, editor of The

Now Harwell is reconsidering his Christian Index, the state Baptist retirement and will possibly remain paper, reconsider his intention to take with the paper following a meeting early retirement and "that The Chriswith his board of directors and the extian Index review board be dismissecutive committee of the convention ed to ensure editorial freedom and in-Dec. 14-15. It would seem impossible for the board of directors and the executive committee to ignore the Harwell, who has spent 30 of his 55 years as either associate or editor of wishes of the convention by failing to the Georgia paper, had announced a reinstate Harwell.

The convention did dismiss the he was taking early retirement review board to "ensure editorial because he could not continue to work freedom and integrity."

It seems strange that editorial freedom would be an issue to the opportunities now offered? Here Seminary Extension Department has freedom-loving Baptists. Even as in Shantung where we ought to have Baptists have championed freedom of religion, they should practice freedom eight? How long is this state of things of the press in their own journals. Baptists have the right and need to more souls are to pass into eternity paper and with power to recommend know. A free flow of Baptist information is a safeguard against a Baptist Jesus?" - Lottie Moon

bureaucracy or any self-appointed Baptist censuring committee.

Even as the Baptist Standard is thankful for the editorial freedom afforded it through its directors, the Standard salutes Georgia Baptists for sounding a strong note for editorial freedom in Baptist life.

Presnall H. Wood is editor of the **Baptist Standard in Texas.**

June 29, 1887, Tengchow

"Great changes are going on in China; wonderful progress is being a hundred missionaries, we have just to continue! . . . How many million without having heard the name of

Seminary extension honors trivocational pastor

bivocational was not enough for Richard Sample; he also took on a third job - and more.

Sample had been a Michigan pastor and schoolteacher for more than a decade when he helped establish the Center for Christian Studies here in 1979. In his role as dean of the center, he has been responsible for scheduling, and in some cases teaching, a number of seminary extension courses each year. Last year students enrolled in eight courses, two of them taught by Sample.

In recognition of his successful recognized Sample as seminary extension director of the year for 1987.

Working with the center has allowed Sample to use the doctor of philosophy degree in education he received from the University of Michigan shortly after he became

FLINT, Mich. (BP) — Being pastor of Ainsworth Baptist Church in Flint, where he still serves.

> It also has broadened the impact of his ministry. Pastors of 14 of 30 churches in Genesee Baptist Association have studied at the center, and two of them have earned seminary extension

> 'From the very beginning, the major objective of the center has been to equip people for more effective ministry in their local church," he said.

During the eight years Sample has been working with the center he also has been moderator of the association made. The question comes up. What leadership of the center over the past for two years, completed a five-year are Southern Baptists doing to utilize eight years, the Southern Baptist term as a member of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and become a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board-approved chaplain with the U.S. Air Force auxiliary.

During five of those years, his wife, Dorothy, was national president of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

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